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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-92-005

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8 January 1992

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Cameroon

UNDP Party Suspends Two Leading Members

AB0501103592 Paris AFP in French 1024 GMT
2 Jan 92

[Text] Yaounde, 2 Jan (AFP)—Mr. Samuel Eboua, chairman of the Steering Committee of the National Union for Democracy and Progress (UNDP), announced yesterday in a statement carried on national radio and television in Yaounde the suspension of Mr. Hamadou Moustapha, first vice chairman of the party, and Mr. Guillaume Mbouck, press secretary. The decision to suspend the two men was made following an announcement by Mr. Hamadou Moustapha about convening a congress of the UNDP in Garoua (north of the country) on 4 and 5 January. Mr. Eboua strongly condemned the initiative to convene such a congress, arguing that only the chairman of the Steering Committee was able to do so. He also called on activists of the UNDP "to abide by the party line and refrain from taking part in the Garoua congress."

Over 1,000 invitations have already been distributed, and a source close to Mr. Hamadou Moustapha said today that the congress will continue despite his suspension.

'Crisis' Reported Within Party

AB0801101092 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
0730 GMT 6 Jan 92

[Excerpt] A crisis has just erupted within the National Union for Democracy and Progress, UNDP, one of the leading Cameroonian opposition parties. Samuel Eboua, who was hitherto chairman of the party, has just been ousted. He was replaced by the former prime minister, Bello Bouba Maigari. This was to be expected, as Raphael Mbadinga explains.

[Mbadinga] Yes, as you have said, it was foreseeable: the atmosphere has been tense within the top leadership of the UNDP since the return home of Bello Bouba Maigari after his voluntary exile to Nigeria as a result of the events of April 1984. Samuel Eboua, former secretary general of the presidency of Cameroon, and who served for a long time as a minister under the single party system, left the ruling party to run the UNDP, one of the heavyweights of the Cameroonian opposition.

The only disadvantage is that Samuel Eboua, a son of the Littoral Province, was only depending on his political past and perhaps his, and I quote, his charisma, in the absence of a foundation of activists from his Douala tribe. The UNDP is a pro-Ahidjo party, following in the line of the former Cameroonian president who died and was buried in Senegal.

Bello Bouba is the darling child of the father of Cameroon, and in this respect, he was considered as his chief favorite for the succession. This idea has always remained in the minds of UNDP supporters who are

mostly from the north of the country—Fulbes and Hausas—who have always considered Mr. Bello Bouba as the only person capable of challenging President Biya in the forthcoming presidential elections.

Following this leadership incident within the UNDP, there is an increased likelihood that that the party will experience many upheavals, and perhaps even a rift. Certainly, Samuel Eboua is completely beside himself over this ouster. He actually believes that it is illegal, and therefore, inapplicable. [passage omitted]

Central African Republic

Opposition Walks Out of Meeting With Government

AB0701205092 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 6 Jan 92

[Text] The first meeting between the government and opposition parties has ended abruptly. Associations and groups were not invited to the Bangui roundtable. Not wasting any time, the opposition simply walked out of the meeting to protest against the fact that the chairmanship of the meeting was given to Prime Minister Edouard Franck.

According to Abel Goumba, the spokesman of the coalition of the democratic opposition forces of the Central African Republic, CAR, the distribution of seats was too favorable to the government:

[Begin recording] The political parties, members of the coalition of the democratic opposition forces, were surprised that this meeting was called by the prime minister, which is a violation of the decrees determining the duties of the mediator. The items on the access to the media and electoral code were crossed off the initial agenda, which is proof that the government does not want to hold a national conference. For this meeting the other parties, namely groups and associations, were left out while department bodies, such as the office of the president and prime minister, which are not institutions, were allowed to take part. On the other hand, an anti-democratic distribution system which favored the government was imposed.

The political parties, members of the coalition of the democratic opposition forces, think that the issue concerning the preparation of the national conference was not only the business of the government and political parties. It concerns all the active forces of the nation, notably unions, groups, and associations. Therefore, the political parties, members of the coalition of the democratic opposition forces, call for the presence of groups and associations at the meeting and also for its postponement so that these groups can fully participate in the meeting. [end recording]

Chad**Human Rights Group Deplores Resurgence of Violence**

*AB0701155092 Paris AFP in French 1025 GMT
5 Jan 92*

[Text] Ndjamen, 5 Jan (AFP)—The Chadian Human Rights League, in a communique issued in the Chadian capital today, deplored "the resurgence of fratricidal clashes" to the northwest of Ndjamen. "The change toward a democratic society and to the rule of law calls for the speeding up of the advent of a civilian regime and a guarantee of minimum conditions of security for the holding of a sovereign national conference which will be in keeping with the aspirations of all Chadians," the communique continued.

The League, therefore, called for a "general disarmament of Ndjamen and the rest of the country, the checking of all weapon and ammunition depots with the assistance of the French forces present" in the country. Furthermore, the League said it is necessary to "reach an agreement with all the armed groups not under government control with an international guarantee for their encampment in a specified area, their disarming, their protection, and their participation in a sovereign national conference like all other political organizations," the communique continued.

The Chadian League also demanded "the release of all persons arrested for political reasons, for their opinions, or for ethnic reasons, and urged the formation of a National Union Government with the participation of the civilian opposition." Such a government, the League continued, would be entrusted with the "speedy organization of the Chadian Armed Forces to reduce the political tension, democratize the public media, and ensure that there are no political police activities, no secret places of detention where torture and summary executions are carried out, and finally to settle the problem of the rural folk by including them in the ongoing democratic process."

The Human Rights League expressed the feeling that "these measures are the necessary conditions for providing an effective basis for the ongoing process." In conclusion, the League demanded "governments of friendly countries, especially France and the United States, not to hesitate for a moment in implementing all urgent measures to save the Chadian people, democracy, and peace from imminent catastrophe."

The president of the Chadian Human Rights League is Mr. Enoch Ndjondang.

Congo**President Sassou-Nguesso's New Year Message**

AB0501192292 Brazzaville Radio Nationale Congolaise Network in French 1830 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Excerpt] President Denis Sassou-Nguesso yesterday evening addressed the nation on radio and television. In

the message, the president examined current principal issues at this decisive period in the life of our country. Denis Sassou-Nguesso successively spoke about the need for a peaceful democratic transition with the holding of open and free elections, the unavoidable need for change in the political culture and behavior, and the need for hard work and effort in order to build a free and proud nation. He also spoke about the role and place of the youth in the new Congo to be built, the timeliness and urgency of pan-Africanism that should ultimately lead to integration, and the responsibility of each citizen in the conduct of the ongoing process.

Among the issues examined yesterday by President Denis Sassou-Nguesso were elections, which the head of state wants to take place in an atmosphere of peace, security, and harmony.

[Begin Sassou-Nguesso recording] Here we are already in an electoral year—a great test and a decisive stage within the transitional period. Let us be conscious of this, because nothing can threaten the democratic process and peace more than irregular and disputable elections. We must, therefore, create all the necessary conditions for these elections to be held in an atmosphere of peace, calm, and total clarity. National unity should come out of this safeguarded at all cost. Everybody must feel secure on the way to the polls. In the polling booth, each and everyone must remain master of his own choice, and in the final analysis, each one must be assured that his vote would not be diverted elsewhere. It is in such conditions that the result will be accepted by all with courage and loyalty. It is up to the government to take all the necessary measures to accomplish this. If need be, foreign observers should be brought in to give us assistance as is done elsewhere. But it is also up to each citizen to give his full cooperation for the smooth running of this process.

Finally, it is necessary that political parties and candidates be able to conduct their electoral campaign quite safely in all parts of the country—regions, districts, municipal areas, and villages. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Rwanda**Correction to New Cabinet List**

AB3112214591

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Prime Minister Nsanzimana on Tasks: New Cabinet," published in the 31 December Sub-Saharan Africa DAILY REPORT, page 2: Column one, table of ministers names make read: Higher Education, Research, and Culture Constantin Cyubahiro (vice "Cubahiro") Column two, table of ministers names make read: Information Fidele Nkumdabagenzi (vice "(Fidelis)") Column two, table of ministers names make read: Social Welfare Prosper Muginaneza (vice "Muuyaneza") (correcting names per recheck).

Zaire

President Mobutu's New Year Address to Nation

LD0101170492 Kinshasa Zaire OZRT Television
Network in French 1230 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Address to the nation by President Mobutu Sese Seko on 31 December 1991—recorded; video shows Mobutu sitting in a book-lined office]

[Text] Dear compatriots! On the threshold of the New Year, 1992, it is my agreeable duty to offer you, as usual, my best wishes for the health, happiness, and prosperity of each one of you. At this precise moment, I dedicate my pious thoughts to all those of our compatriots who have left us during the past year, and I offer my condolences to their grieving families. I think, too, of those of our compatriots who are currently in hospital, and to whom I express my wishes for a speedy recovery.

My thoughts go also to the delegates to the sovereign national conference, particularly those who have come from the interior of the country and who are spending this holiday far from their families whom they have not seen now for five months.

Finally, I express the wish that this New Year should be not only a great year for the reconciliation of the Zairian people among themselves, but also, and especially, a year of collective upsurge and progress in all the sectors of national life.

Indeed, a look back on 1991 shows us that it was a year distinguished mainly by fumblings along the road of democratic renewal and by a deterioration of the economic and social crisis following the unfortunate events of September and October.

Most fortunately, the spirit of dialogue and reconciliation, which is typical of us, led the two main components of national political life to the Marble Palace consultations and the declaration of 22 November 1991, thanks to Senegalese mediation. Since then, a government of broad national consensus, led by a prime minister from the opposition ranks, has got down to work. In accordance with the hopes of all of us, this government has finally made it possible for the sovereign national conference to start its work again effectively, by the election of its provisional bureau amid political openness and relaxation of tension.

In the same way, I call on the prime minister and his government to continue their efforts aimed at restoring the authority of the state, guaranteeing the security of persons and goods, and concerning themselves in particular with daily life. This is why, on behalf of all of you, I have encouraged the government in its recent steps aimed at restarting dialogue with our partners and the international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the African Development Bank. Renewing contacts with our foreign partners implies on Zaire's part a high degree of

discipline in the national context in the management of public finance. Faced with this important stake for the future of our country, and especially for nascent democracy in Zaire, I invite the main protagonists of our national political life to demonstrate their nationalism and patriotism by placing the higher interest of the nation above any partisan or party political consideration.

Indeed—and this can never be repeated enough—great poverty among the people cannot be favorable to the blossoming of a true pluralist democracy.

Dear compatriots, twice in my most recent messages to the nation, I have expressed the hope of seeing the sovereign national conference attend to the most urgent things first, by adopting a draft constitution, and by putting to a popular referendum a draft electoral law and a political timetable.

But I would like us to understand each other well: There has never been any question in my intentions of evading a political debate on the 31 years of administration of our country. As the initiator of the process of democratization in our country since April 1990, and as a convinced democrat, a supporter of change, I hope passionately that this political debate will be as deep as possible and rich in solutions for the future of the nation. Equally true is that all our issues of national importance need solutions that are efficient on a national, regional, and local level. Once we have sketched out the institutional framework, all that will remain will be for the Zairian people as a whole, using their sovereign prerogative, to designate by the unavoidable means of free and democratic elections, those who are to run national life at all levels. In any case, in the unanimous opinion of our friends and main foreign partners, and in light of the experience of the countries of eastern Europe and three sub-Saharan African countries—by which I mean Gabon, Ivory Coast, and Zambia—the process of democratization underway in our country, must end, as quickly as possible, with free elections, which will very quickly enable our country, Zaire, to recover the prime place it deserves in the (concert) of free and democratic countries in Africa and in the world.

Dear compatriots, everybody is talking of change. Some even go as far to attribute it exclusively to themselves. As far as I am concerned, I believe that all the initiatives intended to enrich all that is in the superior interest of the nation—the great reforms of democratic liberalization announced in my message on 24 April 1990—will always be welcome. In fact, as a convinced democrat, I told you that I am and shall remain deeply committed to change, and there is abundant proof for this. However, a reform of the structures, or a simple change of personnel, which would not be preceded by a real change of mentality, will never be able to answer the deeply held hopes and expectations of our people.

Dear compatriots, in conclusion, I hope that for each Zairian 1992 will be a year in which his or her deepest

hopes will be accomplished, so that together we can, with God's and our ancestors' benediction, finally sign the Second Republic's death certificate and register the birth of the Third Republic.

May you have a good and happy 1992!

Normalization of Relations With Belgium 'Expected'

*AB0701143092 Paris AFP in French 1501 GMT
3 Jan 92*

[Text] Kinshasa, 3 Jan (AFP)—Zaire is expected to normalize its relations with Belgium soon, according to a statement made on Zairian television by Mr. Jean Coene, the Beigium ambassador in Kinshasa. He said Mr. Bagbeni Aadeito Nzengeya, the Zairian minister of external relations, had informed him of his government's intention to lift the retaliatory measures taken against Belgium in June 1990.

At that time various sanctions were taken against Belgium by the Zairian Government, notably the expulsion

of Belgium technical assistants paid by the Belgian Government, the banning of activities of Belgian non-governmental organizations, the reduction in flights to and from Kinshasa of the Belgian airline, Sabena, as well as the suspension of Zaire's participation in the Belgian-Zairian Joint Commission.

These measures were taken after Belgium condemned incidents that occurred on 13 May 1990 at the University of Lubumbashi and which, according to Belgium, left 14 students dead following clashes with a military commando. The Belgian Government had called for the setting up of an international inquiry into what it described at the time as a "massacre".

The Zairian Government had, on its part, admitted the death of one student and objected to what it considered to be a "false and calumnious statement by Belgium." Two Zairian parliamentary commissions of inquiry were sent to Lubumbashi and to other universities of the country in 1991, and both commissions confirmed the figure of one dead on the Lubumbashi campus.

Ethiopia

Eritrean Navy To Participate in Sudanese Ceremony

EA0701184992 *Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya* 1500 GMT 6 Jan 92

[Text] A high-level delegation of the Provisional Government of Eritrea led by the head of military operations under the chief of staff, Mr. al-Sayyid Abdullah, left this afternoon for Sudan to participate in the Sudanese naval ceremony [marking the 30th anniversary of the Sudanese Navy]. Various countries will take part, including the Eritrean Navy, which is participating in this ceremony for the first time.

Gedeo Movement Holds Conference, Forms New Group

EA0801073192 *Addis Ababa ENA* in English
1412 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] Dila, [Sidamo Region, Southern Ethiopia] 7th January (ENA)—The first formal meeting of the Gedeo People's Revolutionary Democratic Movement (GPRDM) was held in Dila during a two-day founding conference on 5-6th January. A Central Committee comprising nine members was elected and the movement's programme was approved after wide-ranging deliberations. The GPRDM is the second such faction to be organised to coordinate the struggle of this particular nationality group, according to the report submitted to the conference. It was reported during the parley that the GPRDM was not formed with the intention to divide the nationality group, but to address the questions raised by the people and forwarded countering the programmes of the previously-formed Gedeo People's Democratic Organisation (GPDO). The latter reportedly failed to meet the demands of the members of this nationality which GPRDM claims to represent. Representatives of other political organisations attending the conference expressed their support for the GPRDM, while those of Islamic religion and the Orthodox church appreciated the position of the movement towards peace and stability. Participants of the conference expressed their joy over the formation of the GPRDM by singing and marching in the main streets of the town, holding the emblems of the EPRDF, [Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front] GPRDM and the national tricolour.

Kenya

Nine Officials Leave KANU for FORD

EA0701185592 *Nairobi KTN Television* in English
1600 GMT 6 Jan 92

[Excerpt] Former assistant minister for tourism and wildlife, Geoffrey Kariithi, has defected from the ruling party KANU [Kenya African National Union] to the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy, FORD. Making the announcement, Kariithi, who resigned two

weeks ago, said had agonized over the decision for three months, and that his Gichugu constituents had recommended his defection. Kariithi, who was the KANU sublocation chairman, added it was with regret that he resigned from the party he helped found but was forced to do so because it had been destroyed by its leadership and had lost direction. He described the 1988 rigging of elections as a painful experience and one of the major reasons for his decision. [passage omitted]

[Nairobi KTN Television in English at 1800 GMT on 6 January also reports: "The MP [member of parliament] for Kikuyu, Kabibi Kinyanjui, today resigned from the ruling Kenya African National Union, KANU, to join the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy, FORD. He announced his resignation together with seven other KANU leaders in Kikuyu in his Nairobi office. He cited KANU malpractices and the alleged rigging of the 1986 KANU elections."]

Aringo, Others Leave FORD for Democratic Party

EA0801073092 *Nairobi KTN Television* in English
1800 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] The maverick, former MP [member of parliament] for Alego, Peter Oloo Aringo, has made another turn around and defected from the FORD [Forum for the Restoration of Democracy] to the Democratic Party [DP]. Confirming this today, officials of the DP said they approached Oloo Aringo to join the party and he has accepted. At the same time, members of the FORD national recruitment committee today denied the existence of a joint strategy by FORD and DP to win parliamentary and civic seats in by-elections expected soon.

Also reported to have defected from FORD to the DP is a former MP for Rangwe, Raymond [Oloo] Ndong'. The two were reported to have joined the FORD, where they had met a hostile reception from some FORD officials who particularly questioned the credibility of a man like Aringo. It is understood that Aringo and Ndong' held a lengthy meeting with DP leader Mwai Kibaki. Ndong' was present during a DP meeting at Jacaranda Hotel yesterday. The dramatic move by Aringo confirms fears expressed by his critics over his unpredictable political maneuvers.

[In the same newscast, Nairobi KTN Television reports, "Norman Nyagah, son of health minister Jeremiah Nyagah, has defected from the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy. Talking to the press, Nyagah said he would elaborate further during the unregistered Democratic Party's launch tomorrow. However, he said the youth of the country ought to have a much bigger say in the running of the country, and their issues were being addressed by the Democratic Party." KTN also reports in another item in the same newscast, "The unregistered Democratic Party, DP, is due to be officially launched tomorrow at 12 noon. After a lengthy meeting today

during which final arrangements for tomorrow's launch was announced, John Gachui, standing in for John Keen and the media and public relations committee, said there would be representatives from all divisions. Gachui further appealed to the government to try its best to guarantee freedom of the press and allow wananchi [citizens] to read the impounded edition of SOCIETY magazine."

Ouko Inquiry Lawyer Questioned Over Interview

*EA0701191092 Nairobi KTN Television in English
1800 GMT 6 Jan 92*

[Text] The leading counsel of the Ominde clan [of late Foreign minister Robert Ouko] during the Ouko commission of inquiry, Dr. (Oki) Ooko Ombaka, was today picked up for questioning by police and released three hours later. Talking to KTN, Dr. Ombaka said he was questioned at Parklands police station [in Nairobi] over a press conference he gave in Kisumu on 11th December, [at which he said Ouko's death had been followed by an official cover-up] on the dissolution of the Ouko commission, and a subsequent interview he gave last month to SOCIETY magazine, carried in the impounded issue. Ombaka said he made a cautionary statement, adding that the interrogation was led by Senior Superintendent Mutonyi, who told Ombaka they were investigating sedition.

Thousands of this week's issue of SOCIETY magazine were impounded yesterday by police from the printer, Kenya Litho's premises. The police said they had obtained information the magazine was publishing articles which were false and inflammatory, intended to bring into hatred or contempt or to incite disaffection against the person of the president.

Tanzania

Libyan Emissary Delivers Al-Qadhdhafi Message

*EA0801123292 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania
Network in Swahili 0400 GMT 8 Jan 92*

[Text] Dar es Salaam—Tanzania has called for intensive cooperation among African countries as the only way of preventing the continent from being marginalized. The call was made in Dar es Salaam yesterday by Brother

Ahmed Hassan Diria, minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, during talks with his Libyan counterpart, Mr. Ibrahim a.-Bishari.

Brother Diria told the Libyan foreign secretary that at the end of the Cold War in Europe those countries were now engaged in extensive reconstruction and, therefore, Africa had no alternative but to forge closer cooperation in various fields.

The Libyan foreign secretary, who arrived here on the night of 6 January, brought a special message from the Libyan leader, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, to President Mwinyi. The Libyan foreign secretary expressed his country's desire to strengthen existing relations with Tanzania and cooperation in various fields such as agriculture, science, and technology for the benefit of the two peoples.

Uganda

Parliamentary Elections Scheduled for 1994

*EA0701182592 Kampala Radio Uganda Network
in English 1400 GMT 6 Jan 92*

[Text] The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Kirunda Kivejinja, has said NRC [National Resistance Council] elections will take place in 1994 after the constitution process is completed. Mr. Kivejinja said this when addressing RC's [resistance committees] of Kavulo, (Vutansi), and Kitayunja subcounties in Kamuli district. The minister observed that when the NRM [National Resistance Movement] came to power in 1986 the first thing they did was to introduce the RC system which has now accommodated everybody irrespective of their parties or religious differences. He further disclosed that the NRM came to power with a well-prepared program, adding that 38 members of the NRC were from the bush to pave the way for a broad-based government as planned. The minister reiterated that the election of RC-one up to RC-five is done after every two years, and called upon the people of Kavulo subcounty to elect those people who are approachable. He reminded them that the government is clear to hand over power after the extended five-year period is over [in January 1995], adding that constitution-making would have been finalized. He also told them to give room for the NRM to complete its program.

Botha Welcomes Danish Opposition Move on Sanctions

MB0801095992 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1732 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] Pretoria Jan 7 SAPA—Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha on Tuesday [7 January] welcomed a call by opposition parties in the Danish Parliament for a partial end to sanctions against South Africa. "Mr Pik Botha welcomed the statement issued by three opposition parties of the Danish Parliament...recommending the lifting of certain sanctions against South Africa as a step in the right direction," a Foreign Affairs Ministry statement said.

Foreign Ministry To Close 4 Consular Missions

MB0801100292 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2049 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] Pretoria Jan 7 SAPA—South Africa's consular missions in Glasgow, Rio de Janeiro, Houston and Blantyre would be closed, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha announced in Pretoria on Tuesday [7 January]. This would be done because, with new missions being opened and limited funds, the Department of Foreign Affairs had to look at the desirability of maintaining existing missions.

Reportage on Mandela Address at ANC Gathering

Comments on Elections

MB0801133592 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1148 GMT 8 Jan 92

[Text] Bloemfontein Jan 8 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] President Nelson Mandela on Wednesday announced that the organisation's National Executive Committee had declared 1992 the year of democratic elections for a constituent assembly.

The announcement was made to thousands of supporters in Bloemfontein where the ANC was holding celebrations to mark the 80th anniversary of the organisation's founding. "We enter the ninth decade of the ANC full of confidence that the ideals which inspired its formation are about to be realised. In the final analysis, the issues such an election will address will make it a decisive contest between apartheid and democracy, between white domination and national liberation," Mr Mandela said.

But he warned victory in such elections could not be taken for granted.

"It depends on what we do to transform support and sympathy for the democratic cause into organisational strength and a vote for democracy."

The issue of a constituent assembly was central to his organisation as the ANC believed in the universally acceptable principle that a country's sovereignty resided in its people.

"Nothing less than a democratically-elected constitution-making body will enjoy legitimacy in the eyes of our people and ensure that the overwhelming majority respect the final product. There cannot be any point in setting up an interim government if this principle has not been adopted."

"The process of reshaping South Africa should involve all its people without exception."

This, he added, included the millions of people in the so-called "independent homelands" as well as formal extra-parliamentary organisations such as the trade union and religious bodies.

"Therefore, transitional mechanisms and elections into the constituent assembly should be inclusive of South Africa as a whole, of which the bvc territories are part," said the ANC president.

As a result of the campaign, South Africa could for the first time in its history have a democratic government within the immediate future.

Transition, the ANC leader continued, would begin in earnest once an interim government was installed.

"It is a measure of the strength of the democratic movement and our international supporters that the regime has conceded that it cannot be referee and player in this process.

"By acknowledging the need for an interim government, the apartheid rulers have objectively accepted that their regime is illegitimate and incapable of supervising the transition.

"The democratic movement demands an interim government of national unity because the regime cannot supervise democratic elections and fairly undertake other tasks of the transition," said Mr Mandela.

Such an administration would have clear functions, including:

- sovereign control over at least all the armed forces and police, state media, electoral processes, budget and finance; and,
- forums to take decisions on and supervise the management of socio-economic issues during the transition.

Mr Mandela said once agreement had been reached on interim governmental control over security forces, the electoral process, budget and finance, state media and other areas, these decisions should be immediately implemented and preparations started for elections for a constituent assembly.

"Negotiations over other aspects of government should be facilitated as much as possible, but they should not delay movement towards a constituent assembly," he urged.

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"We put forward these proposals with the aim of ensuring speedy and balanced movement toward the central objective of negotiations: the drafting of a democratic constitution and the setting up of a democratic government," he said.

Comments on Right Wing

*MB0801134992 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1231 GMT 8 Jan 92*

[Text] Bloemfontein Jan 8 SAPA—The white rightwing could delay the process towards democracy, but would not be able to stop it, ANC [African National Congress] President Nelson Mandela said in Bloemfontein on Wednesday.

He was addressing thousands of ANC supporters at a rally to mark the 80th anniversary of the organisation's founding.

"Those on the extreme right of the political spectrum who cling to the past with threats against negotiations might possibly delay transition to democracy. But they cannot stop it.

"Attempts to block the march of history and use violence to perpetuate discredited apartheid policies or even modified apartheid will only lead to a replay of conflict which will cause greater devastation on our whole society," the ANC president said.

For the first time ever, Mr Mandela added, representatives of the oppressed and the government together committed themselves to jointly explore the creation of democratic institutions in South Africa.

"In the last instance, those who seek to subvert democracy will lose because democracy will surely triumph. Our destiny as a people—black and white—is intertwined.

"We owe it to future generations to rebuild our country afresh as our common heritage. Properly organised, no force can stop our people from achieving democracy in the shortest possible time," he said.

Comments on Media

*MB0801135492 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1237 GMT 8 Jan 92*

[Text] Bloemfontein Jan 8 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] President Nelson Mandela on Wednesday issued a powerful call for freedom of the media, saying an informed public was essential to the democratic process.

Mr Mandela's comment on the media was made during an address to thousands of supporters in Bloemfontein where the ANC's top leadership had gathered to celebrate the organisation's 80th anniversary.

Saying openness in the negotiation process was an important prerequisite for the involvement of the public,

the ANC leader committed his organisation to ensuring the country was kept abreast of events.

"An informed public is better able to make an informed choice and itself take part in the debates about society's future. The ANC views freedom of the media and its right to unlimited access to information about negotiations as crucial to a democratic culture."

His organisation had issued a draft media charter for discussion and amendment by the public and other organisations should also strive for a "democratic media".

"We believe that all the parties engaged in negotiations ought to ensure accurate briefings to their constituencies. On its part, the ANC will strive at all times to ensure that our members and the public as a whole are informed about and contribute to this crucial national debate.

Turning to the SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation], Mr Mandela said the role of state-owned media during transition should also receive urgent attention as part of the process towards a "democratic information policy".

"Openness in the negotiations process is an important prerequisite to the involvement of the people," said Mr Mandela.

Calls for Halt to School Boycotts

*MB0801140392 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1324 GMT 8 Jan 92*

[Text] Bloemfontein Jan 8 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] President Nelson Mandela on Wednesday urged black pupils to return to school in their thousands, saying a repeat of the disastrous 1991 matriculation results should not occur.

The ANC president also effectively called for an end to class boycotts.

The comments were made during his speech in Bloemfontein to mark the 80th anniversary of the ANC.

"If the aim of the racists is to keep us ignorant and under-qualified, as the disastrous matric results have shown, we should challenge this by improving our performance even within this limited environment.

"We join democratic students and teachers' organisations and parents in calling for a massive return to school and equal education for all."

Mr Mandela said it was necessary for all educational structures outside the mainstream to pressure the authorities to abolish racially-based education.

"Needless to say, however, the overriding aim should be to create better conditions in which intensive learning can take place, rather than to disrupt the educational process.

Comments on Afrikaners

MB0801140692 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1338 GMT 8 Jan 92

[Text] Bloemfontein Jan 8 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] President Nelson Mandela on Wednesday extended a hand of friendship to the white community, in particular the Afrikaner farmers, saying it was necessary to fight all manifestations of apartheid.

In a speech in Bloemfontein to mark the 80th anniversary of the ANC, Mr Mandela charged that the time had come for all to stake their claim to a democratic future.

"On this our 80th anniversary, the ANC once again extends a hand of friendship to those of our white compatriots who have been made to doubt their place and role in the democratic process now unfolding.

"It is time for them to realise that their interests can only be served by the attainment of lasting peace and stability.

"We address our call particularly to those sectors of the Afrikaner community, such as farmers and workers, who historically have been mislead only to be dumped by self-seeking politicians for a cause that has no future: the time to take a decisive step into the fold of the broader South African society and insure their future in democracy is now," said Mr Mandela.

Comments on Mass Action

MB0801161392 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1538 GMT 8 Jan 92

[Text] Bloemfontein Jan 8 SAPA—Declaring that South Africa was firmly on the road to democracy, ANC [African National Congress] President Nelson Mandela nevertheless called for more mass action to pressure the government.

Delivering the ANC policy speech in Bloemfontein on Wednesday to mark the 80th anniversary of the organisation, Mr Mandela said there was a need to confront the ills of apartheid, secure peace among the various communities and speed up the realisation of a democratic and prosperous society.

"The fundamental decisions about interim government, constituent assembly, time frames and unqualified implementation of Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] decisions will not depend solely on the strength of our arguments and eloquence of our presentations. All-round pressure, in particular systematic mass action, will be decisive.

"We call on workers to further strengthen the democratic trade union movement and facilitate the process towards a united trade union federation."

Moves towards democracy had resulted from pressure from the black community.

"The changes that have been wrought thus far are a result primarily of the actions of the people. Their continued active involvement is not merely politically expedient, but will impact upon the content and legitimacy of the transition."

Only "struggle" could change the existing disparities between black and white.

Mr Mandela went on to demand the release of Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation; MK—ANC military wing] cadres Mthetheli Mncube, Mzondeleli Nondula and others on deathrow.

"Robert McBride and other political prisoners must (also) be released. In the context of an end to the cold war, it is a silly anachronism for the South African Government to insist on the continued imprisonment of Commodore Dieter Gerhardt. He should be released from prison without further delay.

"Talk of free political activity will remain empty if there are still political prisoners in apartheid jails; while repressive legislation is still in force; when violence continues and state-owned media remain under the control of one party during negotiations," said Mr Mandela.

QwaQwa Leader Says NP, ANC To Rule Jointly

MB0801160392 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1100 GMT 8 Jan 92

[Text] The leader of the homeland QwaQwa, Kenneth Mopeli, says there is no doubt that the National Party [NP] and the ANC [African National Congress] will be the joint rulers of South Africa.

Mopeli told a QwaQwa cabinet meeting that the South African Government already appears to have acknowledged that the ANC will form the next government. He says what has emerged from the Convention for a Democratic South Africa has made it clear that the ANC and the National Party will rule and that other parties will merely rubber-stamp decisions taken behind closed doors.

Mopeli has called on smaller political parties to maintain their independence and to avoid being marginalized by the major players in negotiations for a new constitution.

Leader of Right Wing Group Said Arrested 6 Jan

MB0801145192 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1221 GMT 9 Jan 92

[By Ada Stuijt]

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 8 SAPA—Several rightwing leaders on Wednesday protested against the alleged arrest of Gawie Volkschenk, the leader of the Boerekommandos [Boer Commandos; BK].

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His alleged arrest occurred on Monday at his office in Hendrina, according to the BK's newly-appointed acting leader, Wiehahn Steynberg.

According to police spokesman Captain Nina Barkhuizen, speaking off the record, the arrest could be confirmed as soon as an official statement was received by SAPA from the commissioner of police on Wednesday.

Mr Steynberg told SAPA that the organisation wished to protest "in the strongest possible terms" against the arrest.

He said Mr Volkschenk's arrest could be directly linked to the ongoing attempt by the Afrikaner Broederbond [secret Afrikaner brotherhood] to discredit and harass all rightwing leaders.

He said Mr Volkschenk would, however, continue running the Boerekommandos from his cell and that the BK had already made contingency plans to appoint an outside acting leader.

"The BK will continue the battle against the De Klerk government's plans to sell out the Afrikaner Volk."

Meanwhile, protests have already been received from two other rightwing leaders, Piet Rudolph, secretary general of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] and Robert van Tonder, leader of the Boerestaat Party [Boer Homeland Party].

Mr Rudolph said the "Boervolk" would not be intimidated by such tactics.

A well-informed police source, who may not be quoted, said Mr Volkschenk was being questioned about alleged illegal use or ownership of explosives.

Inkhata Official on Efforts To Meet With ANC

*MB0701181092 Johannesburg Radio RSA in English
1100 GMT 7 Jan 92*

[From the "Africa South" program]

[Text] Central Committee member of the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] Musa Nyeni says his party has been corresponding with the leadership with the Africa National Congress [ANC] to set a date for a meeting.

[Begin Nyeni recording] At Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] we were given confirmation that the ANC will definitely be responding positively. Dr. Mdlalose, the IFP's national chairman, and the secretary general of the African National Congress, Cyril Ramaphosa, are handling the whole matter and it is now a matter of finding a suitable date to both parties.

There are many issues that have to be discussed. For instance, this continued violence which is taking place as I am talking to you. Two members of the IFP were kidnapped last Saturday [4 January] in Koster in the Western Transvaal and were hacked to death. One of

them died immediately, the one is in a serious condition in hospital and these are some of our Western Transvaal members.

And in Durban, as you have heard, there is another eruption of violence in the Umlazi area and this can not be allowed to continue. We are hoping the two executives can meet and map out the road together and find one another and save human lives in South Africa. [end recording]

UN Envoy Says Codesa Talks Well Received

*MB0701181192 Johannesburg Radio RSA in English
1100 GMT 7 Jan 92*

[Report on statement by Les Manley, South African ambassador to the United Nations in Switzerland; date, place not given; recorded—from the "Africa South" program]

[Text] South Africa is already starting to reap the fruits of the transitional negotiations started at last month's Convention for a Democratic South Africa, Codesa. Renewed international contacts and relations are continually being forged, also in the chambers and corridors of the United Nations in Geneva, where Les Manley is South Africa's ambassador:

[Begin Manley recording] The whole Codesa process has been very, very well received here, not only by African colleagues but generally by the Geneva and Swiss community, as well as the United Nations bodies here. I believe that this process is certainly receiving the very close attention of the international community, and I believe that certainly it will have an effect upon the workings of the South African mission in Geneva, and I think, in that connection, particularly of the Human Rights Commission, which sits in Geneva. [end recording]

ANC Calls Killing of Policemen 'Counterproductive'

*MB0801083792 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0500 GMT 8 Jan 92*

[Text] The ANC [African National Congress] has condemned the recent killing of policemen. ANC spokesman Saki Macozoma says attacks which result in the deaths of policemen could drive the SAP [South African Police] into the hands of the right wing. John Matham reports:

[Matham] Macozoma says the ANC supports calls for the SAP to be responsible to the entire South African population. He says this will not be achieved by the systematic elimination of members of the force. He says it's counterproductive to kill policemen while Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] is discussing the reform of the SAP.

'Highly Explosive' Situation Reported in Soweto

*MB0701155492 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1438 GMT 7 Jan 92*

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 7 SAPA—A "highly explosive" situation existed in Zola Section 1 in Soweto following an early morning handgrenade attack on the house of a local ANC [African National Congress] executive member, PWV [Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereenigen] Violence Monitoring Commission convenor, Floyd Mashele, warned on Tuesday [7 January] afternoon. Mr Mashele, also an ANC PWV Region representative, said Zola residents were bracing themselves for further violence.

A grenade was hurled into the dining room of the house in Zola at 2am on Tuesday, causing extensive damage but no injuries. Mr Mashele claimed it was aimed at local ANC executive member, Fikile Mavuso, and local ANC Youth League executive member, Nki Mavuso, both of whom were sleeping in the dining room. The grenade landed on a kitchen unit which absorbed most of the explosion, according to Mr Mashele.

Police confirmed a grenade attack in Zola in the early hours of Tuesday in their regular unrest bulletin.

ECC Assails Defense Minister on Military Service

*MB0701173892 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1400 GMT 7 Jan 92*

[Text] The End Conscription Campaign [ECC] has hit out at Defense Minister Roelf Meyer. They have accused Meyer of being pathetic, and of avoiding the real issue by saying conscription is still needed as the country faces a military threat. ECC Chairman Chris de Villiers says the only military threat to the country is from within the SADF [South African Defense Force] itself:

[Begin De Villiers recording] Well, I think it is generally conceded by all reputable military commentators that there is no military threat in the conventional sense of the word, and I'd be fascinated to know what military threat he is talking about. Perhaps he's talking about the SADF in its present form.

Our opinion is that the SADF, under its present command structure, itself is a threat to the stability of the country, because it is not answerable to the broad public. The racial composition, and the general ideology which is still rampant in the SADF—which is a remnant of the total onslaught era of P.W. Botha and Magnus Malan—is still prominent, and is still dangerous. [end recording]

DP Urges Conscripts To Report

*MB0701173792 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1200 GMT 7 Jan 92*

[Text] The Democratic Party [DP] has called on white conscripts to report for their national service. DP defense spokesman Bob Rodgers, reacting to the End

Congression Campaign [ECC] claim that white males do not have to report for national service, says people should continue to abide by existing laws:

[Begin Rodgers recording] If the ECC say that those who don't want to go don't need to go—the chaps with conscience—the law, whether one agrees with it or not, has to be abided by. There's no way that we, as a political party, can [words indistinct] the law. Certainly, we shall do what we can to change any unjust laws. This is what we have been doing ever since [word indistinct], but in the meantime we have to abide by the existing laws. [end recording]

Azayo's Intent To Ensure No Simon Performance

*MB0701174092 Johannesburg Radio RS in English
1100 GMT 7 Jan 92*

[Interview with Azanian Youth Organization Publicity Secretary George Ngwenya by Steven Lang; recorded; date, place not given—from the "Africa South" program]

[Text] The Azanian Youth Organization, Azayo, is determined to disrupt the planned concert tour by American singer Paul Simon, which starts in Johannesburg this weekend, even if it means violence. Azayo Publicity Secretary George Ngwenya spoke to Steven Lang:

[Ngwenya] Our main position as the Azanian Youth Organization is to make sure that this tour becomes a non-starter. We want to make sure that Paul Simon doesn't perform here at home, basically because we believe that he is actually breaking the cultural boycott.

[Lang] Don't you think your actions might lead to bloodshed?

[Ngwenya] Surely, bloodshed is possible. It's not an exclusive matter, it is possible, precisely because we would want to make sure that he does not perform. We have made plans to infiltrate membership of our organization inside the stadium. They are going to make sure that he doesn't perform.

[Lang] Even if it means resorting to violence?

[Ngwenya] Yes, even if it means resorting to violence.

Azanla Claims Tour-Related Bombing

*MB0801051592 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2302 GMT 7 Jan 92*

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 7 SAPA—The Azanian National Liberation Army (Azanla), the military wing of the Black Consciousness Movement of Azania, has claimed responsibility for a bomb explosion on Tuesday night at the premises of a company associated with the Paul Simon tour.

A caller who said he represented Azanla, said the organisation was claiming responsibility for the bombing of

the offices of Network Production, who he said was the local promoters of the Simon tour.

"The bombing took place shortly after 11PM and this is in support of a call by the Azanian Youth Organisation that the tour of Paul Simon must be stopped."

He warned that further attacks would take place if the tour continued.

An explosion ripped through the offices of a company supplying the public address system for the Paul Simon concerts on Tuesday night, police said.

It appears that both companies, Network Production and PA Sound are housed in the same building in 48A Goud Street.

Police spokeswoman Capt Henriette Bester said the blast went off at 11PM, shattering windows of the building housing the PA Sound corporation in the Johannesburg City Centre.

The blast came six and half hours after the American singer arrived in South Africa for his five-concert tour.

Capt Bester said it was unclear what type of explosive device was used.

Explosives experts rushed to the scene but darkness was hampering their investigations, Capt Bester said.

She said it appeared as if the explosive device was hurled at the building on the corner of Main and Gold Streets.

No one was in the building at the time and no injuries have been reported.

ANC Youth League Reacts to Black Test Scores

*MB0701160692 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1242 GMT 7 Jan 92*

[Text] Johannesburg Jan 7 SAPA—The disastrous matriculation results announced by the Department of Education and Training [DET] on Monday [6 January] were another reminder of the gravity of the education crisis in South Africa, the ANC [African National Congress] Youth League [ANCYL] said in a statement on Tuesday. The three per cent improvement from previous years compares appallingly with other education departments.

This was despite the fact that DET matriculants came from the largest section of the South African population. "The results point to the urgency of the abolition of the bantu education system in its entirety and the installation of an integrated and democratic education system in its place.

"The South African Government has yet again demonstrated its indifference and deliberate educational sabotage by again ascribing the high failure rate to community struggles against bantu education," the ANCYL said adding the organisation had hoped the education authorities would acknowledge the damage that bantu education had caused to South African communities.

The ANCYL believed the resolution of the apartheid education system was beyond the capacity of the present government. It called on students to make 1992 yet another year of intensive study despite problems of lack of adequate facilities, books and qualified teachers.

Test Scores Result of 'Deep Crisis'

*MB0801095492 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0819 GMT 8 Jan 92*

[Text] Cape Town Jan 8 SAPA—The pass rate among black pupils would never improve significantly as long as there were different departments of education, says the African National Congress [ANC] in the western Cape.

The 60 per cent failure rate in the Department of Education and Training [DET] examinations was an indication of the ongoing and deep crisis in black education, the ANC said in a statement.

It added the results had again demonstrated the "devastating" consequences of an education system based on apartheid and called for the immediate disbanding of the DET "with its long history of racism, corruption and inefficiency".

The ANC also criticised a DET spokesperson for blaming teachers and pupils for the low pass rate.

Teachers and pupils had for years been victims of the "Verwoerdian vision of Bantu education which prepared blacks for the bottom spectrum of the labour market and was still embedded in all education structures".

"It will take a long time for us to eradicate these ravages of apartheid," the ANC said.

The organisation renewed its call to "build and inculcate" a culture of learning in South Africa.

Angola

Opposition Leader on Registration Difficulties

MB0701092492 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] The Social Renovation Party, PRS, yesterday applied for registration at the People's Supreme tribunal. PRS President Antonio Joao Muachicungo told reporters that in order to gather more than 3,000 signatures required for the registration, his organization had to endure enormous hardship.

[Begin Muachicungo] It was difficult because there was a great deal of intimidation in various provinces. This is something other political parties have complained about under the same circumstances. In any event, we adopted a different strategy and managed to overcome the obstacles. [end recording]

The PRS president regretted that the government has not yet invited his party to take part in the multiparty meeting scheduled to be held between 9 and 14 January.

FLEC Attacks, Kills FAPLA Soldiers

MB0701091992 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0500 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] A number of People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, FAPLA, soldiers burned to death after their vehicle was attacked by Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave, FLEC, troops between Cabinda city and Tando Zinze, in Cabinda Province, at the end of December 1991. Reports from that province say that there were very few survivors.

Lunda Norte Diamond Mine Workers Strike

MB0701181092 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Excerpts] Strike action taken by workers of the Angola National Diamond Enterprise, Endiama, in Lunda Norte Province has been described as unjustified and wild. William Tone, Endiama manager for information services, interviewed by Radio Nacional de Angola, said the strike is due mainly to the fact that Endiama is the sole employer in Lunda Norte Province. [passage omitted]

The workers claim that management has not fulfilled what it pledged in June 1991. They will only return to work if they negotiate directly with the general manager.

Yesterday, the strikers disclosed that they had used firearms, resulting in the death of a Portuguese national working for a Portuguese mining company. [passage omitted]

Mozambique

Malawi Team Arrives 7 Jan for Security Talks

MB0701135792 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Report from Maputo airport by Domingos de Sousa]

[Text] The Malawian team to the fourth meeting of the Joint Defense and Security Commission [CMDS] arrived in Maputo this morning. John Tembo, Malawi Congress Party member and chairman of the Mozambique-Malawi CMDS, has told Radio Mozambique [RM] that the closure of the Milange border post is linked to certain incidents that have occurred in the area. He did not specify the nature of those incidents, but he admitted that the closure of the Milange border post is an issue to be discussed with the Mozambican team in Maputo this afternoon. The two sides are expected to discuss the current stage of relations, as well as to air other ideas on that matter.

In his interview with RM, John Tembo reported good relations between the two countries. He noted that Malawian and Mozambican subcommissions have been holding regular meetings along the common border.

John Tembo is accompanied by a large delegation that includes defense and security, and Interior Ministry officials, and Malawi Youth League officials.

The Mozambican team to the fourth Mozambique-Malawi CMDS meeting is led by National Defense Minister General Alberto Joaquim Chipande. It includes Deputy Defense Minister Hama Thai, the deputy minister of the interior, and other officials.

Border Closure Poses Hunger Threat

MB0701135692 Maputo Radio Maputo in English 1100 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] Hunger threatens about 17,000 people in the central Mozambican district of Milange due to an unilateral and unexplained decision by the Malawian authorities to close the Milange border post, according to a NOTICIAS newspaper report today. Milange, a district in Zambezia Province, has been devastated by Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] banditry, and because the road to the provincial capital, Quelimane, is extremely dangerous Milange has been supplied via Malawi.

Many thousands of displaced people in Milange depend for their survival on relief goods distributed by the government's relief agency, DPCCN [Department for the Prevention and Control of Natural Disasters].

Foreign Minister Dr. Pascoal Mocumbi has already called in the Malawian ambassador to protest officially against the border closure.

Renamo Appoints New External Relations Chief

*MB0701162592 (Clandestine) Voz da Renamo
in Portuguese 1500 GMT 7 Jan 92*

[Commuque issued by the Mozambique National Resistance's Office of the President in Gorongosa on 7 January]

[Text] After the Second Congress, the National Presidential Council of the Mozambique National Resistance held a five-day meeting to study the implementation of the Second Congress recommendations in order to respond to the present requirements. In this context, a Party Office and Organization Department have been created. Raul Manuel Domingos who was the head of the External Relations Department has been appointed head of the Organization Department.

The External Relations Department will now be headed by Jose de Castro, previously the director general of the External Relations Department.

The Finance, Education and Culture, Health, and Agriculture Departments will now fall under the Party Office.

Victory is certain!

[Issued] Gorongosa, 7 January, 1992.

Renamo Commentary Explains Education Policy

*MB0501100692 (Clandestine) Voz da Renamo
in Portuguese 1500 GMT 3 Jan 92*

[Station commentary: "How Does Education in Mozambique Compare With What Renamo Wants?"]

[Text] When we try to come up with statistics on the Education Ministry, we rely on evidence we gather every day inside Mozambique in general, and in government-controlled areas in particular. The keynote is that the training of cadres for the country's social, political, and economic development ever since the Mozambique Liberation Front, Frelimo, took over and introduced a Marxist education system, has only been marked by failure, culminating in a very high rate of illiteracy in the country. Furthermore, the quality of education is extremely poor. In the final analysis, the choice of a Marxist system of education did more to increase illiteracy than eliminate it.

Frelimo uses the war as an excuse for (?the shortcomings of its) system. We would, however, like to ask: The problem is the same in Tanzania and Zambia. It is like flour in the same bag. In view of this, can it be said that war has anything to do with it? No. The reason for these deficiencies can be blamed to a large extent on Frelimo's Marxist system of education. The teachers do not receive their salaries regularly. Is war an influential factor?

As far as we know, there are no shots flying about in the financial institutions, provincial directorates, or the ministries in the cities. Moreover, senior Education

Ministry officials receive their salaries regularly. Can it be that they are not affected by the alleged war factor because they are extraterrestrial?

The war is no more than a ploy to mislead the world into raising funds [words indistinct] which will end up in the Marxist dungeons.

Renamo is opposes Marxist principles on education. Renamo believes that the state should work to ensure that each citizen achieves adequate educational standards. It also believes that illiteracy should be fully eradicated as soon as possible. In order to achieve that, education will be compulsory and free to Grade VI. This, however, is not sufficient.

Renamo believes that the right of education for all should also be the responsibility of parents and the state, the former catering for infants, and the latter for higher, technical, professional, and university education.

Renamo will promote the construction of schools to provide education for our people on the basis of dignity and new concepts of freedom. Renamo will oppose political and propaganda teachings as in Mozambique currently. Renamo stands for an enlightened and open system of education, and rejects the patronizing system followed by Frelimo.

In line with what we have always stated, Renamo will support private education [words indistinct] based on a free education system which will prevent socioeconomic discrimination. Our aim is to give educational opportunities to everybody.

Mozambique faces an acute shortage of qualified personnel to fill educational establishments. Renamo will give priority to high schools, and the creation of technical and professional educational establishments. The aim is to gradually meet the country's requirements in cadres and skilled manpower.

Renamo believes that colleges must cater for the socio-economic and cultural development of Mozambican society. This calls for a review of the university teaching system based on two priority goals, namely the democratization and improvement of services. Like the health sector, international organizations and church institutions will be encouraged to promote education at all levels.

Renamo is deeply concerned with illiteracy. We intend to do away with this problem through the creation of a national educational system to give basic education to every citizen. Specialized centers will be created and seconded to the territory's local government system.

*** Insight Into Portuguese Role in Peace Process**

*92AF0211A Lisbon O JORNAL in Portuguese
29 Nov 91 pp 20-21*

[Article by Manuel Vilas-Boas]

[Text] Here also, secrecy was at the heart of the affair. In a subterranean passage next to the Assembly of the Republic [AR], Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] had its feelers....

A christening in Leiria on 3 August 1985 resulted in a fortuitous meeting between Father Manuel Carreira das Neves, former director of Radio Pax, from Beira, Mozambique, Franciscan missionary and teacher at the Catholic University, and engineer Fernando Bras de Oliveira, director of construction services associated with the Cahora Bassa project. During this same period, Carreira das Neves was pursuing his doctorate in the Theology of Peace in Rome and was holding meetings with the Franciscan European Cooperation Organization [CEF] and the International Center for Peace among Peoples [CIPP], headquartered in the Italian city of Assis.

Bras de Oliveira, 70 years of age, with an enviable reputation in the construction of dams since 1946 (among which are Castelo de Bode, Cabril, Picote Cambambe, and Cahora Bassa), remained in Mozambique at the request of Samora Machel, to lend his support in the technical area.

Although the political orientation of the Mozambican regime was not to Bras de Oliveira's liking, it was party impartiality and a strong humanitarian trait on the part of his entire team which prevailed upon him to remain, as desired by the public authorities.

A scenario of degradation of Mozambican society was meanwhile represented by Bras de Oliveira to Carreira das Neves in that baptismal ceremony. Solutions were sought; incentives in the form of cooperation, at the national and international level. Guerrilla warfare, in turn, became more intense.

Having bad relations with the Catholic Church due to harsh criticisms he leveled at it during the first years of the revolution, Samora Machel asked Bras de Oliveira, who had become his adviser, to contact religious circles in Europe with the aim of sending missionaries to Mozambique specialized in the fields of health and education. This was the only exception granted by Maputo's Marxist regime to bring new agents into the missions field.

Almost synchronous with the proposal of the Mozambican president, the then minister of education, working through the deputy minister of health, Dr. Fernando Vaz (nephew of Bras de Oliveira), asked in turn for a return of the Rua project to provide priority care for the orphans created by the war.

It would be easy for Bras de Oliveira to arrange a meeting with the then head of the project founded by Father Americo. Telmo Ferraz had been chaplain of a number of dams built by Bras de Oliveira's crew. But only later would this contact begin to bear fruit.

Samora's Secret

"This is amusing! I may even be able to help." This was the reaction of Father Manuel Carreira das Neves when he was informed by Bras de Oliveira in Leiria about Samora Machel's project. Immediate steps having been taken in Rome through the CEF, an association of bishops, clergy, and fathers of the Franciscan Order founded in 1982 and headed by Carreira das Neves, revealed "the Mozambican president's aspiration to be impracticable." The only thing questioned was the security of the new missionaries. For the time being it was necessary to hit upon other solutions....

And it was not just a question of making peace in Mozambique where the war was being carried on in an absurd manner. Rather it was essential to contact the parties involved in the conflict—Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] and Renamo.

Samora became aware of the new proposals presented by the clergy through Dr. Fernando Vaz, deputy minister of health. Clothed in the greatest secrecy, the details of this process (of which not even Joaquim Chissano, minister of foreign affairs, was made aware) were delivered by Machel to Luis Cabaco, his minister of information. Meanwhile, the first bits of information on this affair were forwarded to Cabaco by Bras de Oliveira. Cabaco expresses his willingness to go along and Samora orders the process...in peace.

Renamo in an Underground Role

The first meeting with Renamo was handled by Father Manuel Carreira das Neves. It was necessary to test the probability of a response in order to establish a connection between the two belligerent entities.

On 2 September 1985 at his general headquarters in Lisbon, Jorge Correia, Renamo representative for Europe, received an underground representative closely associated with parliament, the "emissary" of peace, Carreira das Neves. This meeting was not difficult to arrange, since Carreira das Neves already knew Jorge Correia from childhood. Bonds of friendship and family relations exerted considerable influence in this process....

An efficient network of communications through contacts abroad bore out Jorge Correia's promise to release within a few days some of the missionaries kidnaped at the time by Renamo.

Bishop in Exchange

But in exchange for these concessions (the names of the released missionaries were revealed by the international and national press), Renamo, operating out of Lisbon, would demand the availability of the bishop of Algarve, D. Ernesto Costa, who had been made a prelate in Mozambique, for the role he had been playing between Renamo and the Vatican. Aware of the humanitarian

purpose of this action—the release of the missionaries—D. Ernesto Costa agreed to cooperate with Renamo.

Subsequent to the outcome of this "charming operation," secret measures for Mozambican peace then headed for Assisi. Carreira das Neves and Bras de Oliveira contacted the president of the CIPP and the local town council, Jianfrank Costa, as well as one of the most influential members of those organizations, the Franciscan Gianmaria Polidoro. Heir to the pacifist ideas of the "Poverello" of Assisi, the CIPP will become the brains of all future operations.

Official Church Not Opposed

In February 1986 in Maputo, Samora Machel, "with an impressive welcome," received the first missionary of the Assisi Center, Father Polidoro. At the expense of an Italian travel agency, the Assisi Franciscan took almost eight days to reach Mozambican soil where engineer Bras de Oliveira was awaiting him.

Without any contact with the official Mozambican Church, Polidoro took his place in silence among the Polana Franciscans in Maputo and scarcely spoke with Samora during an entire morning spent at the Academy near the Summerschild district. An unpretentious meeting in Rome before Father Polidoro's trip to Maputo, held with D. Jaime Goncalves, bishop of Beira, who was there as a representative of the Mozambican Episcopal Conference [CEM] at the conclusion of the Marian Year, made it clear to the promoters of this process that, "due to the difficult relations between Frelimo and the Church," no initiative of this kind had yet been taken. "We appreciate your 'course of action' and the steps you have taken," said the Beira bishop who, curiously, represents the Mozambique Church during the current phase of the conversations for peace.

Diplomatic Error

The first official contact with Renamo had allegedly been held a few months prior in Lisbon during the 1985 Christmas season at the provincial home of the Franciscans, 34 Rua Silva Carvalho. The meeting was attended by Father Gianmaria Polidoro, at the suggestion of Jorge Correia, who was in turn replaced by Evo Fernandes, Renamo representative in Lisbon. The individuals in attendance were welcomed by the provincial member of the Franciscans, Father Antonio Montes.

Despite the fears which assailed him, as confirmed by Carreira das Neves with whom he spoke at his headquarters in Alcantara, at this meeting Evo Fernandes allegedly made one of the most brilliant speeches of his life, with a precise list of the conditions required for a peace process.

The brilliance of the speech was especially noted by the CIPP representative who, through a diplomatic error, made it a point to call the attention of Luis Cabaco, Machel's representative in this process, to Evo

Fernandes's leadership capability. (Evo Fernandes was found dead on 21 April 1988 in the vicinity of Cascais.)

Cabaco's Letter

Perhaps this is what caused Luis Cabaco, Mozambique's minister of information at the time, through a harsh letter directed to Father Polidoro in July 1986, to interrupt the process which was already being carried out in its entirety by the CIPP. And it was in this manner that the prior negotiations appeared to be making progress, those which their promoters, in commemoration of the International Year of Peace currently underway, had designated as the first scheduled meeting in Rome between Frelimo and Renamo at a "very unpretentious" house in the summer or autumn of 1986.

Carreira das Neves eventually learned about this letter in which Father Polidoro is harshly criticized in a conference on peace in Samovor in Croatia during the month of July.

Santo Egidio and the Vatican

The community of Santo Egidio, in Rome, which since 1989 has been trying to assist in peace negotiations in Mozambique, was at that time also informed of the process being conducted by the CIPP; for example, during the previous year (1985) it had catalyzed Italian public opinion by collecting clothing and food badly needed by the Mozambican people. But even here news had arrived regarding the process proposed by the Beira bishop who maintains his customary domicile in Santo Egidio when away from Rome.

Also at the Vaticar, there were echoes, although still somewhat imprecise, of peace negotiations underway.

Prior to Easter 1986, Agostinho Casaroli, the Vatican's secretary of state, working through Monsignor Sebastiano Corfanego, head of African affairs, tried to ascertain the detailed aspects of the process, but without immediate success. Subsequent conversations offered an insight into the diplomacy of the Holy See throughout its various channels, although somewhat discreetly.

Synthesis of Peace

With the death of Samora Machel in October 1986, the process appeared doomed to failure. In the testimony of the promoters of the initiative, "He had been the one most involved in the process." In any case, his tragic disappearance caused the process to be grievously delayed.

Meanwhile, after Joaquim Chissano's election to the presidency, new attempts at pacification emerged, although without success; these attempts were made through the intervention of Cardinal Alexandre dos Santos, of Maputo, and the president of Kenya.

With regard to the previous project, Chissano was curious to learn more about the details.

Thus, Bras de Oliveira returned to the "Ponta Vermelha" [not further identified]. Chissano, having been informed, requests that the project be put on "stand by," [previous two words in English] inasmuch as "the pernicious presence of certain individuals meddling in the affair" could be felt.

Polidoro would also return to Mozambique. Chissano wanted to meet him personally, and at the meeting in March 1987 "there was a profound and promising dialogue." Chissano will subsequently want to have a synthesis of the peace methodology employed by the CIPP at various meetings on peace as proclaimed by Reagan and Gorbachev.

Three Million Displaced Persons

Meanwhile, Robert White, a Mozambican engineer working in Portugal with Bras de Oliveira's crew, reported the existence of more than 3 million persons displaced by the war; this was considered to be a matter of the greatest urgency, taking precedence over any other project in that area.

Rather than pursue the peace process exclusively, Bras de Oliveira planned to launch a more extensive campaign which he called "integrated projects." With these initiatives it was hoped that "socioreligious and technicoeconomic action" would be developed which would make it possible for the displaced persons to recover and be "self-sufficient in terms of food requirement," reintegrating them once more in a "society imbued with peace and an atmosphere of reconciliation."

The Mozambican Government, as well as the Catholic Church, had already agreed to these projects. The Church, for the first time, had expressed its willingness to go along with all aspects of the initiative.

The General Coordinating Council [CCG], which was headquartered in Lisbon and had the responsibility for carrying out all action required in the field of technical assistance and the promotion of peace in Portugal and Mozambique, was composed of engineer Bras de Oliveira, its chairman, Reserve General Ruy Bras de Oliveira (his brother), and engineer Miguel Machado de Simas.

With regard to the area concerned with the promotion of peace, the following were appointed in Lisbon: Father Carreira das Neves, Father Antonio Reis (Jesuit), and Father Polidoro. The Catholic Church in Mozambique had not yet appointed the local coordinator "because of other priorities." The local coordinating council in Maputo was headed by engineer Amaldo Lopes Pereira for technicoeconomic action. The technical support area was made up of engineers Borges Leitao, Teixeira Duarte, Crespim de Sousa, and Dr. Alfaro Cardoso.

Difficulties of every kind, especially in the deterioration of the social situation, caused by the drought, starvation, and generalized insecurity due to the war had impeded the materialization of the projects intended for the area

of Chokwe (former Limpopo) and Chitima. Only the project of Umbeluzi, in Maputo, had been partially completed.

Without Doors or Windows

It is only the Rua Project which had provided the impetus for the "integrated projects" and this occurred on 26 August of this year.

Overcoming security reasons, blessed by the Church and desired by the government, the work of Father Americo returned, 16 years later, to the Mozambican fold. Of 600 initial hectares given by the government, 1,500 hectares have now been made available. But it will take some time for everything to become normal again. Practically destroyed, the existing farming and cattle-raising park and other facilities to be constructed, such as the "mother-house" and four dormitories for teen-agers, require a budget allocation of almost 10,000 contos.

This is a sum which could only be covered by the generosity of the Portuguese people as was already done in part by the parish of Arroios in Lisbon.

Renamo Promotes a Truce

The integrity of the installations could in turn be assured by Renamo itself whose leader, Afonso Dlakhama, promised Father Telmo Ferraz in Lisbon recently not to unleash any military action in the area.

Fearing that the "integrated projects" might be used by the Frelimo government as a political victory, Dlakhama said that Renamo would do nothing to stand in Frelimo's way. At a meeting in the Fatima sanctuary, the Renamo leader promised, as did engineer Bras de Oliveira and Father Manuel Careira das Leves, that special protection would be given to the "integrated projects" of Chokwe and Chitima.

Now made public, these "integrated projects" received not only the unbiased interest of the Mozambican Government but also the support of the Portuguese Executive which had already granted a subsidy of \$120,000 for the Chokwe project, budgeted in its initial phase at \$200,000.

Other financial interventions are expected from international and national organizations, principally by Caritas and dioceses roused to action by the Portuguese Episcopal Conference [CEP].

Also a positive reaction is expected from religious congregations, only now being informed of these "integrated projects."

On the horizon we still have the "spirit of Assisi" which gave substance to the CIPP.

[Box, p21]

Condemned to Death by Frelimo

He was saved from a plane with an automobile borrowed from a Portuguese.

Father Antonio Reis, 55 years of age, a Jesuit, is one of the members of the coordinating team associated with the "integrated projects" whose goal is to promote peace. A missionary in Mozambique where he arrived in 1960, he was kidnapped by Renamo on 8 November 1986, having been released after a drawn-out operation of 45 days.

But he who does not dare does not fear. Antonio Reis returns to his missionary challenges in June 1987 in Malawi on the border of Mozambique where he finds more than 100,000 Mozambican displaced persons fleeing from the war.

After 60 days spent in Malawi, Antonio Reis received a note advising him that SNASP [People's National Security Service] (Mozambican Political Police) had prepared an ambush aimed at eliminating him physically within 48 hours. [as published]

After many cooperative efforts, including an automobile lent by a Portuguese and acquaintances in the KLM, the escape was arranged in about five hours through the use of a plane which would take him to Amsterdam after 20 hours of flight.

The same fate was not reserved two years previously for two of his colleagues, missionaries in Angonia: Father Silvio Moreira and Father Joao de Deus Goncalves, killed in cold blood by Frelimo soldiers. One of the perpetrators of the crime, who attended the funeral of the victims, now wanders about in the streets of Tete, permanently drunk and with obvious symptoms of insanity.

Meanwhile, Father Antonio Reis has now been in Angola and California.

He now participates in the "integrated projects" and is responsible for contacts with Renamo, with whose members he is well acquainted, especially the current representative in Lisbon, Manuel Frank, whose family was kidnapped with him...by Renamo.

With regard to recent contacts, he expressed complaints concerning Renamo soldiers in Angonia whose fiancees are being "raped" by those rebel soldiers.

Zambia

Government Said To Lay Off 1484 Civil Servants

MB0701135992 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0935 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] Lusaka Jan 7 SAPA—The Zambian Government will lay off 1484 civil servants in the next few months to reduce public expenditure, SAPA correspondent in Lusaka reports.

Civil Servants Union of Zambia [CSUZ] General-Secretary Golden Mandandi confirmed in Lusaka on Tuesday the package for those to be pruned was being worked out by the union and the government.

The union would ensure the benefits were lucrative so employees would not suffer undue consequences.

The CSUZ could not comment on the 10000 ghost workers on government payrolls as the union had no access to computers at the Ministry of Finance that detected the scandal.

In another development, Matero MP Samuel Miyanda has called on the government to reduce tax on workers because of recent price increases triggered off by the mealie meal price rise.

Mr Miyanda said tax for workers should be reduced in the next budget because people hardly manage to survive.

The Secondary School Teachers Union of Zambia [Sestuz] has appealed to the government to stop deducting money from salaries of its members as contributions to the Zambia National Union of Teachers [ZNUT] because it no longer represented them.

Sestuz Interim Vice Chairman David Simuzuza said in a statement on Tuesday his union would file an injunction against the government and ZNUT if the deductions were not stopped.

Government Said To Pay 10,000 'Ghost' Workers

MB0701150292 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY
in English 7 Jan 92 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Zambia Hunts Costly 'Ghost' Bureaucrats"]

[Text] Lusaka—The Zambian Government has uncovered a racket in which 10,000 "ghost" workers in the civil service have been paid millions of kwacha in salaries, wages and housing allowances.

The government has launched investigations to ascertain who the actual beneficiaries of the state funds are.

The huge wage bill is said to be one of several major factors contributing to Zambia's economic malaise.

Deputy Finance Minister Derrick Chitala confirmed yesterday the government was trying to find out the category of the "ghost" workers on the payroll.

Chitala was appalled by what he called gross inefficiency which greatly contributed to the government's loss of millions.

"There are more than 144,000 civil servants.... This is too high a figure to activate any meaningful development," Chitala added, saying retrenchments in the civil service were under way.

The IMF and the World Bank, in collaboration with government, were scrutinising the budget for the current fiscal year, intending to reduce Zambia's inflation rate, now pegged at 200 percent, he said.

Official Refutes 'Ghost Workers' Claim

MB0801084092 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] Secretary to the Cabinet Mr. Sketchley Sachika today reacted sharply to Finance Deputy Minister Derrick Chitala's disclosure that the government has 10,000 ghost workers on its payroll and described the minister's statement as misleading.

Mr. Sachika, in a statement today, said that while he appreciates the concern showed by Mr. Chitala in (?favor) of civil service, he regretted that the minister could describe the affected civil servants as ghost workers. He said matters relating to the running of the civil service should be left to competent authorities to handle.

Mr. Chitala said the government is spending millions of kwacha in salaries and wages, including housing allowances, every month and that investigations are on to find out who the beneficiaries are. But, Mr. Sachika said information available does not support the assertion that there is massive racketeering involving large numbers of ghost workers on the payroll of government.

Official on Economic 'Misallocation' by UNIP

MB0801084192 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] Luapula Province Deputy Minister Edward Munga has said that Zambia's economy is in a bad state due to misallocation of resources by the previous UNIP [United National Independence Party] government. He said this situation resulted in [words indistinct] infrastructure, as UNIP allegedly concentrated on the building of a huge political establishment rather than investment and creation of productive employment.

Addressing traditional chiefs, businessmen, council senior staff, and MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] officials in Mansa today, the minister said the MMD Government decided to reduce subsidies on mealie meal so that the money realized can be channeled in other productive projects. Mr. Munga said the subsidies had distorted the economic development of the country.

UNIP To Hold Party Congress in April

MB0701092592 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 6 Jan 92

[Text] The United National Independence Party, UNIP, has accepted President Kaunda's decision to retire from active politics and has decided to hold its congress in April [words indistinct] all party posts will be elected.

This was disclosed by UNIP Secretary General Kebby Musokotwane when he briefed newsmen at Freedom House in Lusaka this morning and said the decisions were arrived at by the party's Central Committee, which had been meeting in the last few days.

Mr. Musokotwane also said the party constitution which was adopted at the last party congress has become irrelevant and will be changed at the April congress.

Curb of Tourism Foreign Exchange 'Pilfering' Urged

MB0301191192 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 3 Jan 92

[Text] Deputy Tourism Minister Princess (Nakhatimbi) today proposed the establishment of an inspectorate to monitor and curb the pilfering of foreign exchange by tourism operators.

She said the proposed institution should have access to books of accounts and other documents pertaining to operations of all tourist enterprises in the country.

Speaking at the end of the year party held by the Zambia National Tourist Board [ZNTB], Princess (Nakhatimbi) said tourism was one of Zambia's foreign exchange earners from which the country should benefit. She urged the ZNTB workers to enter the new year with (?added) vigor whatever assignment is given.

Officials Round Up '500 Suspected Illegal Aliens'

MB0601195592 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1931 GMT 6 Jan 92

[Text] Lusaka Jan 6 SAPA—Zambian immigration officials rounded up more than 500 suspected illegal aliens, including shopowners of Asian and Lebanese origin, in Lusaka on Monday [6 January] in crackdown that began last week, reports SAPA's correspondent. The operation, mounted by immigration and police officers in the Kamwala shopping area and Lusaka city centre, netted more illegal immigrants among them Asians, Lebanese, Zairean, Zimbabweans and East- and West African nationals.

The combined team pounced on all suspected illegal immigrants in shops and other business premises, demanding to see documentary proof of their entry and stay in the country. Those found without proper identification were detained at Lusaka central police station. Immigration Department public relations officer Paul Mulu confirmed the detentions and the operation which started last Friday.

One of the victims, Shabby Valley, complained that even though he was a Zambian, he was not given a chance to collect his papers. "I was simply thrown into prison cells." Another victim, who did not want to be identified, said: "I have a valid residence permit, but I wonder if the authorities expect me to carry it everywhere I go."

The West Africans still in custody complained that their Asian counterparts were receiving preferential treatment by way of quick scrutiny of their identities while they were left to languish in prison. They wondered whether the procedure followed was legal since the immigration officers did not show any permit allowing them to conduct the operation.

Zimbabwe

'Influx' From Drought Areas Causes Land Disputes

MB0601171092 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1633 GMT 6 Jan 92

[Text] Harare Jan 6 SAPA—The influx of people from drought-stricken parts of Zimbabwe into Gwetsanga communal areas in the Midlands is frustrating conservation programmes and causing land disputes, reports the ZIANA [ZIMBABWE INTER-AFRICAN NEWS AGENCY] news agency. Gwetsanga communal land is

one of the few areas in the district that has maintained virgin forests due to sparse population.

The shortage of tillage land, coupled with the ravages of drought, has resulted in an uncontrolled influx which is being strongly resisted by the early settlers, some of whom had been there for the past 20 years. There have even been cases of violence as people try to evict the newcomers from land allocated to them. Outsiders are being attracted to the area by good rainfall and the fertile soil suitable for high cotton and maize production.

An Agritex officer working in the area, Edgar Chitsa, admitted the influx of people would soon cause problems as the new arrivals, at times, settled anywhere disregarding proper land management, land conservation and cultivation programmes being initiated by his department. The newcomers mostly come from the drought-stricken areas of Mberengwa and Chivi.

The villagers complain the settlers who came here six years ago were now inviting their relatives and friends telling them that there was plenty of land.

Guinea

Conte Receives Liberian Government Envoy, Message

AB0801103092 Conakry Radiodiffusion Nationale de la Republique de Guinee in French 2200 GMT 6 Jan 92

[Text] The head of state granted audience early this afternoon to Dr. Levi Zangai, minister of state of the Interim Government of Liberia, and special emissary of President Amos Sawyer. The Liberian emissary expressed gratitude to President Lansana Conte for his relentless efforts toward the restoration of peace in his country. He gave details on developments in the political situation in Liberia in regard to the last summit of the Mediation Committee in Yamoussoukro.

On behalf of the interim president of Liberia, the Liberian emissary asked the Guinean head of state to bring his influence to bear on his counterparts to ensure the effective implementation of the Yamoussoukro resolutions in conformity with the Economic Community of West African States peace plan in order to permit the Liberian people to start democratic elections in peace and serenity.

The president of the Republic shared the concern of President Amos Sawyer for settling this crisis. In this regard, he advised the Liberian Interim Government delegation to activate contacts with the heads of state of the subregion and expressed the hope of seeing Liberia reassume its full responsibility of a free, united, and [word indistinct]. [passage indistinct]

Police Break Up Demonstration Against Economy

AB0701203092 London BBC World Service in English 1830 GMT 7 Jan 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] A demonstration in the Guinean capital, Conakry, has ended in violence. Unemployed graduates and civil servants took to the streets earlier today to complain about poor economic prospects and the shortage of jobs. But it all turned sour when the police intervened. Fode Fofana saw the trouble and telexed us this report from Conakry:

[Begin studio announcer recording] According to his colleagues, one of the demonstrators, a Mr. Camara, was hit by a tear gas canister fired straight into his mouth. He and his colleagues were involved in a sit-down protest in front of the Ministry of Administrative reforms this afternoon demonstrating against what they referred to as the central government's refusal to confirm their employment after two months of special training and four months of waiting.

When I visited the Ignace Din Hospital a short while ago, Mr. Camara was undergoing an operation. I tried to

force my way into the operating theater to see the state of the victim but without success. I did, however, hear him shouting with pain.

His colleagues told me that riot police had approached them asked them what they were doing. Immediately afterwards, the head of the squad ordered that the demonstrators should be fired upon. One eyewitness told me: Mr. Camara was shot in the mouth and hit by tear gas canister. One of the riot policemen took out his bayonet and tried to stab me, but I pounced upon him, threw him to the ground, and ran away.

Others told me that they had been clubbed by riot police. At the time of writing, the demonstrators were outside the studios of Guinean radio and television in an attempt to get the victim filmed. So far, there has been no reaction from the Guinean authorities. [end recording]

Ivory Coast

Houphouet Meets French Foreign Minister Dumas

AB0801104292 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French 0700 GMT 7 Jan 92

[Text] French Foreign Affairs Minister Roland Dumas made a short stopover in Abidjan yesterday night as part of a tour of many African capitals. He was received by President Felix Houphouet-Boigny with whom he held lengthy discussions and had a business dinner also attended by members of his delegation. Mr. Dumas, who spoke to the press, explained to reporter Pierre Adepeaud that his discussions with President Houphouet-Boigny centered on strengthening bilateral cooperation, the Liberian, Togolese, and Chadian problems, the next France-Africa summit, and developments in the situation in Eastern Europe. Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording] We discussed the preparations for the France-Africa summit likely to be held in Libreville, Gabon in September 1992. We, the French and the Ivorians, would like to make this summit a particularly great one in the present international context and in view of the problems confronting the African Continent. I listened at length to President Houphouet-Boigny who briefed me on his views concerning such essential problems as raw materials and world trade. Those problems might be among the important issues to be discussed at the summit. [end recording]

Niger Premier on Internal, African Situation

AB0701072092 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 30 Dec 91 p 21

[("Exclusive" interview with Niger Prime Minister Amadou Cheiffou by FRATERNITE MATIN journalist Honorine Yaoua Kouman in Yamoussoukro on 28 December)]

[Text] [Kouman] Mr. Minister, you are a civil aviation engineer. Why this sudden appearance on the political scene?

[Cheiffou] As you can see, civil aviation can take you anywhere. And this is not the first time engineers are in politics, as far as I know!

[Kouman] In October, the candidates for the post of prime minister were many. According to you, which factors acted in your favor?

[Cheiffou] It was a possibility that was simply realized. I think what acted in my favor was certainly the proposals I made to work with openness in the new democratic spirit, and above all, to work toward the economic and financial recovery of the country through a policy of grassroots development. However, I admit that I was not the best. All the other candidates were men of merit. It was God who wanted the choice to fall on me. I am a strong believer, even if I had all the winning cards which the Niger people regarded as quite interesting.

[Kouman] Niger experienced 17 years of military rule. Is the country not still haunted by the shadow of men in uniform?

[Cheiffou] Yes, Niger experienced special government for 17 years. The sovereign national conference reviewed the situation regarding the performance of these regimes in all fields. The consequences were drawn responsibly and wisely. And so now, the Nigerois are mature. They are moving into the future in democracy and are mobilizing themselves to rebuild their country. That is Niger today.

[Kouman] Mr. Prime Minister, what is your opinion about the effervescence today in Africa about national conferences and the new democratic process on the continent?

[Cheiffou] I think the situation that Africa is now going through is the result of insufficient freedom and democracy. Added to that is, of course, the world economic crisis that somehow affects everyone, especially developing and African countries. It was therefore very logical that people who were also under political pressure should think about their future and cast off their political yokes. This is how I can explain the holding of the different national conferences.

The search for a national consensus, democracy, progress, and political renovation is a need today to enable those countries to be mobilized, but above all, to put forth internal efforts in order to better make their capacity and internal economic potentialities yield profit.

[Kouman] Mr. Prime Minister, regarding the Tuaregs, do you, for instance, plan to hold a special conference devoted to them like in Mali?

[Cheiffou] The Tuareg problem in Niger is different from that of Mali. In Niger, we give precedence to

dialogue. This dialogue was introduced quite satisfactorily, and we are continuing the consultations in order to find purely internal solutions to our problem.

[Kouman] Mr. Prime Minister, you were elected for 15 short months. Is this enough to bring Niger back to the road of progress?

[Cheiffou] No, the national conference itself admitted that a period of 15 months is a transitional period for setting up institutions that are democratically elected through universal suffrage. But the challenge of redress is such that 15 months are very insufficient to effectively achieve a lasting economic and financial redress. The transitional government that I am leading has a well-determined mission. It has some specifications that it will try to implement according to available and approved means. It is therefore trying to do its utmost to at least stabilize the current situation and improve the living conditions of the people. So there are two objectives: the transitional objective and the longer-term objective, the development of which the transition is only a stage.

[Kouman] Before your election, you supported, among others, the confiscation of ill-gotten assets. How far have you gone with this project today?

[Cheiffou] In this regard, you know, the national conference set up a commission on crimes and abuses whose duty is precisely to seize ill-gotten assets. This commission, which worked even during the national conference, continues its work and is soon going to hand in its first findings. Consequently, it is work that is going to be done during the whole transitional period and we are awaiting its findings.

USD Leader on Division Within Opposition

*AB0801094892 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN
in French 4-5 Jan 92 p 6*

[P.M. Abiali report on Television Channel 1, TV1, interview with Zaourou Zadi, secretary general of the Union of Social Democrats, USD, by a team of reporters in Abidjan on 2 January]

[Text] Bernard Zaourou Zadi on the evening of 2 January clearly explained the division within the opposition. After showing embarrassment and seeking visibly to dodge the issue, Zadi, upon the insistence of a reporter of the left in the person of J.P. Vandale, ended up acknowledging the deep divisions existing among the opposition leaders. Describing the Ivorian Popular Front [FPI] as "populist," Mr. Zadi whose party definitely seeks to be "elitist," did not fail to raise his voice against the expansionist designs of Laurent Gbagbo's party which he accused of seeking to engulf the left and, consequently, a large proportion of the opposition. Mr. Zadi, who clearly stated that there could be no alliance of

the left at just any price, strongly denounced "the alliance by absorption" proposed by the FPI to the other leftist opposition organizations.

After several months of interruption, TV1's "Focus" program resumed with an attempt by the guest of the day, Mr. Bernard Zaourou Zadi, secretary general of USD, to highlight the representativeness of his party on the political chessboard. USD, according to its secretary general, now has a membership of 70,000 spread over 45 zones throughout the country. While answering a hot spate of questions from reporters Jean-Baptiste Akrou of FRATERNITE MATIN, Guy Pierre Nouaman of DEMOCRATE, and Jean-Pierre Vandale of LA VOIE, the USD secretary general did not lose sight of African and world issues, especially developments in the East. Before then, Bernard Zaourou Zadi observed that he did not enter politics unexpectedly.

"Teaching, he pointed out, is a political act. I belong to that professional group and I am at the same time a writer. As a playwright, the bulk of my work centers on political power and its relationship with the people." As teacher, playwright, writer, or politician, Zadi seeks, as he states it himself, to serve as an opinion leader just as reporters do.

For the time being, the USD secretary general says his party does not seek to transfer wholesale to Ivory Coast the system in Sweden or anywhere else. In politics, what matters is your actions, Zaourou Zadi said. An admirer of the philosophy of Mao Ze-Doung without, however, being a real communist, the USD leader believes that very often our compatriots confuse issues. People believe that belonging to the opposition necessarily means that one belongs to the left. For the speaker, belonging to the left is a culture that one acquires over a long period.

On the failure to hold the National Union of Secondary Teachers of Ivory Coast [SYNESCI] reconciliation congress, Zaourou Zadi, whose party stands for appeasement, observed that the only hindrance was that of recognition of the Kipre Tape wing by the authorities. "We took this stand because we of the USD did not want the SYNESCI to fall apart."

What general assessment would he make of the USD after two years of multiparty politics? Has Zaourou Zadi not somewhat become a political lightweight, the undesirable member of the opposition? These were among so many pertinent questions which Ali Coulibaly's guest handled with flying colors, stressing, in regard to the assessment of his party, that the latter was yet to really find its feet. Some parties, Mr. Zadi deplored, excel, unfortunately, in slander. To put it better, the principles on which the left is founded are not applied at all by the opposition parties, which is a pity, the USD secretary general observed.

What type of society will Mr. Zaourou Zadi put in place if he were head of government? On this question, he proposed bringing to book all those who owe taxes for them to make quick payments to the state. Savings, the

full implementation of the law, self-management, and social security are among other guidelines along which Mr. Zaourou Zadi's government would base its policy.

Regarding the much talked of national conference which is somehow the anchorage of the opposition, the USD's view is clear: "The Ivorian society is in a crisis. All these issues, Mr. Zadi said, have to be raised but at the same time, we must ensure that if ever this conference is held it does not turn into a trial, or even an occasion for settling scores."

On the whole, it was a program which aroused considerable interest among viewers.

FRATERNITE MATIN Interviews Russian Envoy

AB0701100092 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN
in French 30 Dec 91 pp 22-23

[Interview with Russian Ambassador Mikhail Mayorov, by Noel Yao; date and place not given]

[Text] [Yao] Following the debacle of the former USSR, what state are you now representing in Ivory Coast?

[Mayorov] Our Ministry of Foreign Affairs is now under the control of the Russian Federation, therefore, we fall automatically under Russian jurisdiction now.

In line with the 21 December Alma-Ata Accord, all former USSR embassies now represent the Russian Federation but that does not exclude the fact that we could, if the need arises, represent the other states, namely the Baltic States and the Commonwealth of Independent States [CIS]. We receive our instructions mainly from the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry. Naturally, as a consequence, there will be a reduction in the number of members of the diplomatic corps.

[Yao] Where will diplomatic relations between Russia and Ivory Coast start?

[Mayorov] Right from the beginning, when I first came here even as USSR ambassador to Ivory Coast, I made the effort to bring our relations to the level of "Russia-Ivory Coast" relations. Trade relations with your country are very significant: the raw materials we buy from here are processed on Russian territory.

In the past weeks, I have had contacts with the Ivorian authorities in order to attain a good level of understanding and to orient our relations towards Russia even if your country is free to initiate relations with the other CIS members. I repeat, however, that our future relations will focus on developing good relations between your country and the Russian Federation. I have just received a message from Russia on this issue.

On a more concrete level, since the creation of the CIS on 8 December, we have already welcomed two economic delegations from Russia who came to discuss economic and commercial relations with Ivory Coast.

[Yao] Going back to the current situation in the ex-USSR, what, according to you, went wrong? What really brought about the dissolution of the Soviet State? What final explanation can you give us?

[Mayorov] The former system was no longer working so changes were needed. Gorbachev was the first to understand the situation. He initiated perestroika but the situation got out of hand and he was unable to remain in control of the process. The society was ailing. Sooner or later, this change would have come about.

[Yao] So, you knew beforehand that the Union would break up?

[Mayorov] Not to this extent, but we all knew that changes would follow, especially after last August's coup d'état. We knew we were moving towards this kind of development. We knew that after the coup, the "center" would cease to exist.

[Yao] We are nonetheless surprised to see that apart from a demonstration staged in Moscow by the supporters of the former Union, there has been little reaction from them. They did not shed enough tears over the death of the empire and the precipitated departure of President Gorbachev...

[Mayorov] There are many people who supported the Union, more than one could imagine, but nationalistic feelings became very strong and the idea of the Union in its ancient form was no longer viable. After the referendum in Ukraine, where a large majority of people voted for independence, it was clear that the kind of Union Gorbachev wanted would not be possible. A new form of union was found with the CIS in which each state will be self-reliant.

[Yao] Could you be more explicit about this CIS? Theoretically speaking it is not a state; it looks like a coordination of states...nothing is clear.

[Mayorov] The CIS is not a suprastate organization. Each state is independent. The participants in the Alma Ata meeting agreed to form an organ of coordination. This is unique in the world.

[Yao] So, there is no president of the CIS?

[Mayorov] No.

[Yao] So, is the CIS a little like the EC?

[Mayorov] I believe that the existence of the EC has played a large role in this idea of the creation of the CIS. This commonwealth is expected to lead to the creation of a unique economic area. Despite the emotions and the ambitions, everybody agrees that there will be no survival without the maintenance of economic ties.

[Yao] Many are those who have predicted the failure of the CIS. Mr. Chevardnadze, your former foreign minister, went further by speaking of a "cataclysm."

[Mayorov] I would like to tell you that I have great esteem for Mr. Chevardnadze. I have worked with him and it was from his ministry that I was appointed to this place. He is an intelligent man. He is honest with himself and with his entourage. He has analyzed the situation and believes it could degenerate further. I am not an alarmist but a realist, or better still, a prudent optimist.

[Yao] The same pessimism exists in regard to nuclear weapons which the former USSR in particular acquired for itself. The danger also exists at the level of conventional weapons and forces with the desire of some states to build their own armies...

[Mayorov] One thing is clear: the "ignition button" has been handed over to Yeltsin by Mikhail Gorbachev. Meanwhile, Ukraine and Belarus have declared that they want to be denuclearized states. The others will follow suit. In future, it is Russia which will hold all the nuclear power. At any rate, the 30 December Minsk meeting will help to solve the problems left in suspension.

[Yao] Another question which, undoubtedly, is not very diplomatic: What feeling do you have today toward Mikhail Gorbachev? Must he be blamed for "causing the USSR's disappearance?"

[Mayorov] On 26 December, (?Soviet) television carried a program on "the last days" of Gorbachev. I was torn between two feelings: my first feeling was that a great politician was leaving, a man who has made deep marks in the history of mankind and who will continue to play a great role both internally and externally. I had the feeling that Gorbachev was not finished.

[Yao] Do you believe that he will be solicited again "in the post-CIS era" as is already being said?

[Mayorov] Politically, he is not finished. My other feeling was one of pity, the pain to see him go away like this. The images of Gorbachev's departure were painful to see and I believe he deserves greater respect in his "last days" as president.

You asked me whether or not he should be blamed for "causing" the collapse? If he had not done so, another person would have done the same thing. Certainly, the empire could have existed for some time, but sooner or later, we would have come to the same result. What I reproach Gorbachev for is that he was not true to his ideas in the work that he had commenced. He was not always decided. Three years ago, we could have done much. That could have "facilitated" the process we are experiencing today.

[Yao] Will you say that Boris Yeltsin has obtained what he wanted: revenge over Gorbachev, the power he badly wanted?

[Mayorov] I believe so. He took his revenge politically. Personally speaking, even in this case, he must be respected.

[Yao] Do you agree that he has staged a "civilian coup d'état" against Mr. Gorbachev?

[Mayorov] Even Mr. Gorbachev has said that it is not a "civilian coup d'état." I agree with him.

[Yao] People say that Boris Yeltsin is authoritarian...

[Mayorov] I believe rather than the situation that has forced him to be "authoritarian." The situation is critical. It is necessary to make decisions very quickly—unpopular decisions such as price liberalization.

[Yao] Boris Yeltsin is hot-headed, and unstable. This is dangerous for the "nuclear button" he is keeping...

[Mayorov] In regard to the "button," he cannot take any action without consulting the presidents of Belarus, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan. This mechanism is there.

[Yao] Who do you prefer, Gorbachev or Yeltsin?

[Mayorov] I have always believed that they are two complementary figures meaning that they could work together.

[Yao] Under whose direction?

[Mayorov] [laughter] We must search for that! Before concluding, allow me to thank all Ivorians, (leaders) and ordinary citizens who, in recent times, have expressed understanding and sympathy for our country, and not forgetting members of the diplomatic corps. This is comforting to us in our present position, and we are full of goodwill to continue to strive for the well-being of all peoples and, above all, for the establishment of relations between the Ivory Coast and Russia.

Liberia

ULIMO Contemplating 'Major Offensive'

AB070121059 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 6 Jan 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] What do the ULIMO rebels [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] make of Charles Taylor's offer [to open roads on 10 January]? Fode Fofana went to see their spokesman Alhaji Kromah, and from Conakry telexed this report:

[Begin studio announcer recording] I was ushered into one of Alhaji Kromah's safe-houses where he had just concluded a meeting with ULIMO commanders. Kromah accused Charles Taylor of playing for time and amassing wealth. He warned that he was contemplating a major offensive on Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] rebels. If we have to attack Taylor after 10 January, he said, we will not restrict ourselves to

conventional and guerrilla warfare alone. I asked him what he exactly meant by this, but (he declined) to elaborate, saying only that ULIMO has the capacity to deal with the NPFL.

Talking about the possible return of Liberian refugees from Guinea, Kromah asked: How can we assure the half a million Liberians who are here in Guinea, that it would be safe to return to Liberia when they could fall into Taylor's net?

He urged Amos Sawyer's Interim Government to maintain the embargo on essential commodities going into NPFL territory.

Kromah concluded by saying: We are inspired by justice and can defeat Taylor at any time.

Charles Taylor claims that he is God-fearing, said Kromah, but nobody, not even the Devil, deserves less to go to Heaven. [end recording]

ECOMOG Field Commander on Forces Deployment

AB0701202092 London BBC World Service in English
0630 GMT 7 Jan 92

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] According to the latest peace agreement for Liberia, the West African peacekeeping force, ECOMOG, should have begun deploying its troops in areas controlled by rebel leader Charles Taylor and his NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] since the 15th of November last year. But that has not happened. Why? Well, the man that should know why this Liberian peace process is way behind schedule is the ECOMOG field commander himself, Major General Ishaya Bakut.

Last week, Maj. Gen. Bakut led a group of ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] ministers and officials to Gbarnga in Charles Taylor territory. On his return to Monrovia, Ofeibea Quist-Arcton asked him what had gone wrong:

[Begin recording] [Bakut] I would not say that something has gone so badly wrong. The problem has been that the period for confidence-building apparently seemed to have been underestimated, and although we seem to be on course, we are beginning to realize that people have to be convinced much more before they get to accept that. But before there is going to be an area of [words indistinct] that would give them the type of confidence that they require to be able to hand in their arms. They have also got to know that there were other activities that took place after or just around the 15th of November that must have affected the smoothness of the programs that were set out after Yamoussoukro IV.

[Quist-Arcton] You mean the border clashes between Charles Taylor's NPFL and the exiled ULIMO [United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy] force based in Sierra Leone?

[Bakut] Yes, I mean that.

[Quist-Arcton] Do you now think that this confidence-building exercise has come to an end and it is time for ECOMOG to move, as it was meant to do, throughout the country? What stage have you got to exactly?

[Bakut] I believe that from the discussions we held on Thursday [2 January] and the pronouncements of Mr. Charles Taylor, you would understand that there is willingness that ECOMOG should go in.

[Quist-Arcton] There are reports that ECOMOG has been deployed—and the word "deployed" was used—and was quoting the field commander, you, to two counties, including three towns—Buchanan, Harper, and Greenville. What exactly are you doing there? Are you preparing for encampment and disarmament or have you started the process?

[Bakut] Really, the Grand Bassa area where you have Buchanan [passage indistinct] we have spelt, after the reconnaissance we will be able to tell the size of force that... [item incomplete as heard] [end recording]

Taylor, Prince Johnson Comment on New Currency

*AB0701184392 Paris AFP in English 1204 GMT
7 Jan 92*

[Text] Monrovia, Jan 7 (AFP)—Charles Taylor, whose rebels control virtually all of Liberia outside the capital, has warned that anyone holding new five-dollar banknotes issued by the Central Bank of Liberia on Monday faces arrest.

Bank governor David Vinton said all old five-dollar bills should be handed in for new ones by January 17, in a move aimed at "strengthening the Liberian dollar."

But sources close to the rebel leader said the new currency issue was a further measure by Amos Sawyer's interim government to "asphyxiate" Taylor's National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL). It could "wreck the peace process," one of Taylor's aides said.

Long queues have formed outside the banks in Monrovia, but Taylor warned that only the old notes, in circulation since 1989, would be considered valid in the Liberian interior.

Anybody found with the new ones faced immediate arrest, he said at his Gbarnga headquarters, northeast of the capital.

"Sawyer has no business making new banknotes," Taylor added. "What will happen with Liberians who buried their money and took refuge in other countries and have not returned home?"

The currency change follows sanctions enacted by the Sawyer government against the NPFL to deprive the rebels of fuel, alcoholic drink, tobacco and other goods in a bid to pressure them to disarm in line with a West African peace plan launched on November 15.

Taylor won unexpected support over the currency from Prince Johnson, leader of a dissident faction of the NPFL, who is based in the Monrovia suburbs with several hundred men.

"I will collect the new banknotes from anyone on the base, pile them up and burn them in the presence of journalists," Johnson announced. "I have millions of U.S. dollars, pounds sterling and other foreign currencies. When I go to Monrovia I will pay my bills in U.S. dollars," he added.

The Liberian dollar is officially worth one U.S. dollar, but the American greenback costs seven Liberian dollars on the black market.

The Monrovia government has accused Taylor of stalling on disarmament and opening roads to tighten his grip on the country while he exploits its resources, while Taylor has called officials in the capital "Marxist-Leninist liars."

BBC on Johnson's Detention, Release of Reporters

*AB0801072492 London BBC World Service in English
0630 GMT 7 Jan 92*

[From the "Network Africa" program hosted by Hilton Fyle]

[Text] Reports persist in Monrovia that the well-known Liberian journalist, Isaac Bantu, and his colleague Daniel Brown, are being detained by the forces of former rebel leader Prince Johnson, who is now working with the Interim Government in Monrovia. Mr. Bantu, who has for years reported for the BBC, was on a working holiday in Liberia from the United States, where he is doing a journalism course.

We have been in touch now with people in Abidjan, a correspondent for the French news agency, AFP's Alain Bommenel. He is on the line now, and has been in touch with his colleague, AFP correspondent in Monrovia. Let's say: Good morning, Alain:

[Begin recording] [Bommenel] Good morning.

[Fyle] Have you been able to find out why Mr. Bantu and Mr. Brown were arrested?

[Bommenel] Well, Prince Johnson told a delegation from the Union of Journalists of Liberia that he jailed Isaac Bantu because he suppressed the publication of his January 2 press conference. A 12-man PUL [Press Union of Liberia] delegation had gone on Johnson's Caldwell base to seek clarification from Prince Johnson on the detention of the journalists and Johnson refused to release Bantu, but promised to do so this morning when his press statement is published in today's papers.

[Fyle] So Mr. Johnson says he is detaining Bantu because Bantu refused to report on a press conference he gave some time ago. Is that right?

[Bommenel] Yes, that is right. He alleged that he had told this press conference that there was a plot by the remnants of the Armed Forces of Liberia and the Interim Government of Amos Sawyer in collaboration with some elements of the Nigerian contingent of ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] to assassinate him. He also said that he told the press conference that the ancient government was bringing in arms and ammunition. He alleged Bantu discouraged the publication of the release and underlined that the Constitution of Liberia calls for freedom of speech, so that is why he jailed Bantu.

[Fyle] So he is actually accusing Mr. Bantu of deliberately suppressing a report on this press conference. So what about Mr. Bantu's release? Any prospects for that?

[Bommenel] [Words indistinct] about the release of Bantu, that will have to wait for some more hours to have something coming from Monrovia.

[Fyle] Do we expect that Mr. Bantu will be released at all today?

[Bommenel] Well, it is hard to say because, you know, with men like Johnson you cannot even say anything.

[Fyle] Alain, well we will have to leave it there for now and see what happens. [end recording]

[London BBC World Service in English at 1740 GMT on 7 January in its "African News" program, adds the following: "Reports from Liberia say the rebel leader, Mr. Prince Johnson has released two Liberian journalists he detained at the weekend. The FRENCH NEWS AGENCY said that the president of the Press Union of Liberia, Mr. Isaac Bantu, a former BBC reporter, and a television journalist, Mr. Dan Brown, were released from the base of Mr. Johnson's Independent National Patriotic Front on the outskirts of Monrovia. Mr. Bantu said he had been held because Mr. Johnson was not happy with some aspects of the reporting of one of his news conferences."]

Election Commission Member Resigns

AB0601165092 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 6 Jan 92

[Excerpts] A member of the Elections Commission, Counselor Priscilla Stewart, has resigned. In a letter to President Amos Sawyer early last week, Counselor Stewart said Mr. Charles Taylor's appointment of Mr. Yonduah Monokomana as chairman of the commission and his subsequent election by members of the commission undermined the credibility of the Elections Commission. [passage omitted]

But the president, Dr. Amos Sawyer, has meanwhile appealed to the counselor to reconsider her decision and

remain on the commission. The president said the interim government has also been concerned about the capacity of the commission, as organized, to retain a sense of integrity and operate with fairness. [passage omitted]

Niger

Premier Cheiffou Addresses Nation on Insecurity

AB0701153592 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network
in French 0545 GMT 5 Jan 92

[Text] Prime Minister Amadou Cheiffou, in a message to the nation last night, spoke again on the problem of insecurity that our country is experiencing with armed attacks on several areas of the country. The prime minister once again reiterated his call for dialogue. He called on all those who may have grievances to voice them out in order to engage in more constructive dialogue. Mr. Amadou Cheiffou, however, issued a warning to our brothers who still persist in acts of terrorism.

[Begin Cheiffou recording] It must be known, however, that the government, with the support of other transitional organs, is determined to take up its responsibilities in order to guarantee security of property and persons, as well as our country's territorial integrity. Under no circumstance will it, therefore, allow any individuals tempted by adventure to undermine the still fragile roots of democracy, sow desolation and insecurity in the country, and compromise irreparably the efforts made by the entire nation for redress and development.

There is also an issue that concerns all Niger citizens and to which the government appeals to all to attach great interest: Niger can never in any way be partitioned; it is one and indivisible, and all sons of the country live in it with the same rights and duties. Everyone's cooperation with the political, administrative, and traditional authorities, and the defense and security forces is, therefore, needed in order to bring the situation under control as soon as possible.

In this regard, I would like, on behalf of the nation, to congratulate officers, noncommissioned officers, soldiers, gendarmes, elements of the Republican Guard and the police force for the courage with which they are accomplishing their mission. I want to assure our valiant Army that it has henceforth won the confidence of all the transitional institutions as well as that of the entire active forces of the nation. I am sure that it will accomplish its duty in the respect of the laws and norms of the Republic. The active forces of the nation, the democratic forces, who were the initiators of the current changes, are currently giving the government their unflinching support.

The government, on its part, has already outlined the necessary strong measures to deal with the negative acts of those who are trying to impose what they consider to

be their cause through armed attacks, massacres, kidnappings, looting, and destruction. The search for national unity, the exercise of freedom and democracy so dearly won by our people, should not in any way be confused with laxity, anarchy, and disorderliness. In respect for the rule of law and the burgeoning democracy, the transitional institutions will not tolerate attempts to divide and dislocate the nation. This should be very clear to everybody.

(Brotherly) hands will, however, be extended for dialogue, consultation, and mutual understanding. With this in mind, the transitional institutions have decided to undertake, with the cooperation of the democratic forces, a vast campaign of sensitization throughout the country on the negative effects of attacks on certain areas of our country. I immediately call on those who are spreading trouble and terror, on our armed compatriots, to lay down their arms and to release any kidnapped persons. They must show up and expose their grievances to make dialogue and consultations possible. I assure them of my total readiness to meet their duly mandated representatives immediately. This is the only way in which they can promote what they consider to be their cause, otherwise, they will, obviously, be put into the vile category of terrorists who fear neither God nor man and will be treated and fought as such.

The government has already set up a friendly body of reflection chaired by the minister of interior to settle problems of grazing areas in accordance with the recommendations of the sovereign National Council.

Once again, my dear countrymen, I solemnly call on you to remain vigilant and calm, and to put your trust in the transitional institutions and in the defense and security forces. [end recording]

Interior Minister Confirms 'Tuareg Rebellion'

*AB0701212592 Dakar PANA in English 1555 GMT
7 Jan 92*

[Text] Niamey, 7 Jan. (ANP/PANA)—Niger's interior minister Mohamed Moussa Tuesday confirmed that there was a Tuareg rebellion in the country, after previous government denials. "I have received a message from the front confirming that there is a Tuareg rebellion in Niger," he said.

He said that the Front for the Liberation of Air and Azawad (FLAA) [Air is in northwest Niger] had grievances for Niger's transition government which they were willing to discuss.

The minister said that Tuaregs arrested in various attacks in the country were doing well and are under no threat. He denied reports that other armed uprisings were taking place in the country. "There are no other forms of attack in the localities of Aderbissanat, Abala and Tounfaminir," he said.

Five localities in the northern part of the country have been attacked by rebels since the end of October 1991. In these attacks nine security force members and three rebels have died and 10 persons including two civilian were wounded. Twelve gendarmes and one soldier were kidnapped.

Lake Chad Basin Commission Meeting Begins 7 Jan

*AB0801120692 Dakar PANA in English 1023 GMT
8 Jan 92*

[Text] Niamey, 8 Jan (ANP/PANA)—A meeting of the Lake Chad Basin Commission began in Niamey, Niger, on Tuesday, to discuss the final demarcation of common borders between Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria and Chad and ways of protecting the environment.

Experts of the commission will also deliberate on its 1992 budget, restructuring of the organisation, as well as sub-regional water resources, fisheries, agriculture, livestock and environmental projects. They will also look into a water supply and agricultural rehabilitation project initiated by the Food and Agricultural Organisation which will feature on the agenda of the UN conference on environment to take place in Brazil in June 1992.

The commission groups Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon and Chad, which share the Lake Chad basin.

Nigeria

New Body Takes Control of National Bank

*AB0701204092 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network
in English 1800 GMT 6 Jan 92*

[Text] The Board of the National Bank of Nigeria has been dissolved. The Central Bank of Nigeria, in a statement today in Lagos, said the action was taken in the interest of the bank's depositors and other creditors as well as the stability of the banking system.

As a result, the Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation, assisted by a task force, has been appointed to take control of the whole of the bank's business with immediate effect.

People's Bank Chairman Resigns Over Corruption

*AB0801122392 Paris AFP in English 2229 GMT
7 Jan 92*

[Text] Lagos, Jan 7 (AFP)—The chairman of the People's Bank of Nigeria (PBN), Tai Solarin, has resigned in protest against government failure to prosecute employees of the bank accused of corruption. Solarin, 69, an outspoken critic of public ills, said Monday [6 January] he was resigning in protest at official unwillingness to try senior officials implicated in financial impropriety and corruption which rocked the bank last year. He said in a resignation letter that some employees had

"looted the People's Bank and made away with millions of naira that were intended for the common man".

The result of an inquiry into corruption in the bank has yet to be made public by the Finance Ministry which supervises PBN.

Although the employees concerned have been sacked, there was a need to prosecute them to deter others who saw public institutions as avenues for personal enrichment, Solarin, a teacher by profession, said in his letter.

The bank was established in October 1989 by the government of President Ibrahim Babangida to cater for poor professional people and traders who, because of the stringent requirements of orthodox commercial banks, might not have access to loans.

PBN has 200 branches nationwide and about 245,000 persons have benefitted from its loans since inception, officials said.

DAILY TIMES Deputy Editor Dismissed

AB0801120592 Paris AFP in English 1313 GMT
7 Jan 92

[Text] Lagos, Jan 7 (AFP)—Ndaeyo Uko, deputy editor of Nigeria's most widely circulated and oldest newspaper, the Daily Times, has been sacked in a reorganisation exercise, press reports stated here Tuesday.

Former information minister Alex Akinyele last week dismissed Yemi Ogunbiyi, the managing director of the company, which is mostly government-owned, and dissolved the board of directors of the paper, published since June 1926.

The dismissals follow a front-page story on December 31 in which 1986 Nobel Literature laureate Wole Soyinka criticised the military government's adoption of an 'open ballot system' of voting in its plan to restore rule to democratically elected civilians next October.

Yemi is a close friend of Soyinka, who also described last December 14's election of civilian governors in the states of the Nigerian federation as "a pure sham", observers noted.

It was Yemi who invited Ndaeyo, a former senior journalist with the independent Guardian newspaper to come and work in the Times when he became its director about two years ago.

Yemi has been credited by observers with raising the editorial content of the newspaper and increasing the company's annual profit dramatically, by more than 100 percent.

Akinyele said that Tola Adeniyi, a former journalist of the newspaper and director-general responsible for the transfer of Nigeria's capital from Lagos to Abuja, has been appointed as the sole administrator of the company.

Under the reorganisation, announced Monday by Adeniyi, some top journalists working in the company were also reassigned to different editorial functions in the company, which has about 10 publications.

The Daily Times has a print-run of some 350,000.

Two Said Killed in Muslim Clashes With Police

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[Text] Reports from the northern Nigerian town of Katsina say at least two people were killed during clashes between police and Islamic fundamentalists demonstrating in the town at the weekend. Police said 29 people were injured and more than 60 people arrested.

The clashes follow religious unrest in Katsina in April last year after which nearly 100 fundamentalists were sentenced to six months in prison. Hundreds of supporters of those imprisoned had gathered in Katsina at the weekend to celebrate their release.

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